

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13



LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. ²You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin. ⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. ⁹Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. ¹¹Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. ¹²The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. ¹³Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.



The Second Sunday of Advent



Sunday, December 6, 2020
Second Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion

December 6, 2020 • 9:00 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

PRELUDE

Fling Wide the Door

arr. Robert Farlee

MEDITATIVE MOMENT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The assembly is seated.

*Currently there is **NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**. Please silently meditate upon the words to this song.*

GATHERING SONG

The King Shall Come

ELW 260

(Courtesy of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Worcester, Massachusetts, Mark Mummert, Cantor)

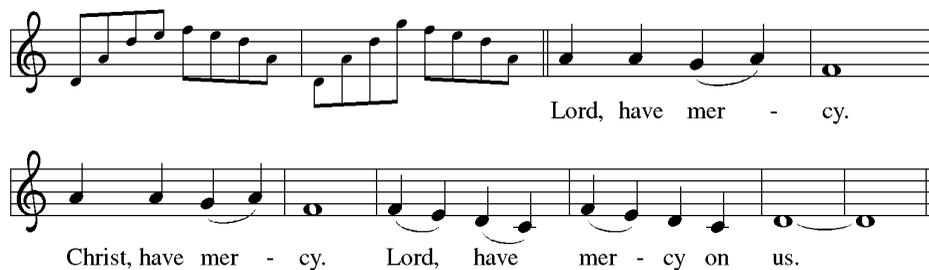
GREETING

Grace and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

KYRIE (SUNG BY CANTOR)



Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

As we light the candles on this wreath,
kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,
that we may be light shining in the darkness.

Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.

Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

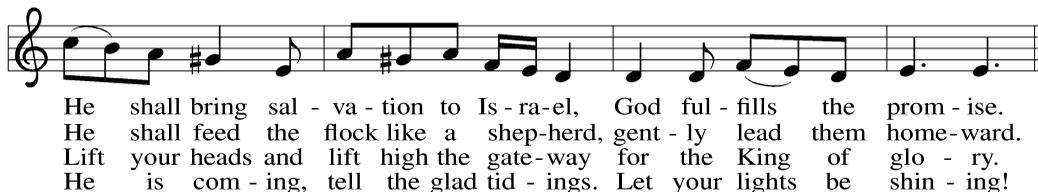
Amen.

*The second Advent candle is lit as the Cantor sings verse two of **Light One Candle**:*

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40: 1-11

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of God. *Alleluia.* (Luke 3: 4,6)

GOSPEL: Mark 1: 1-8

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness. Prepare the way of the Lord.

The holy gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Rick Bliese

A time of reflection follows the sermon.

*Currently there is **NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**. Please silently meditate upon the words to this song.*

The assembly is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Courtesy of Trinity Lutheran Church, Worcester, Massachusetts, Tom Trenney, Director of Music

THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need. *Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.***

We bring to you, Christ, members and friends of Emmanuel who need your healing touch.

(Names from our congregation...)

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set.

OFFERTORY

Lost in the Night
Jan Gazdic and Denise Larson, duettists

Nordic Hymn

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Generous God,
you have created all that is,
and you provide for us in every season.

Bless all that we offer,
that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing.
In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING : DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Jesus Christ is the host of this Holy Communion, in which we celebrate the Real Presence of Our Lord among us. Jesus' presence is in the sanctuary. Jesus' presence is also real in your home. Please have bread and wine available and ready (or juice). All the baptized are welcome to participate this morning in their homes during the livestream worship. Follow the presiding pastor for instructions.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here.
Come, eat and drink.



COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers and those at home say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

(Parents are encouraged to bless their children at this time. Follow the instructions from the Presiding Minister).

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Gracious and abundant God,
you have done great things for us, and we rejoice.
In this bread and cup you give us life forever.
In your boundless mercy, strengthen us
and open our hearts to the world's needs,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,
✠ now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Savior of the Nations Come

ELW 263

(Courtesy of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Worcester, Massachusetts, Mark Mummert, Cantor)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The ushers will dismiss the congregation by rows. Please wait until the usher directs you to exit.

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

arr. Sobaje

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