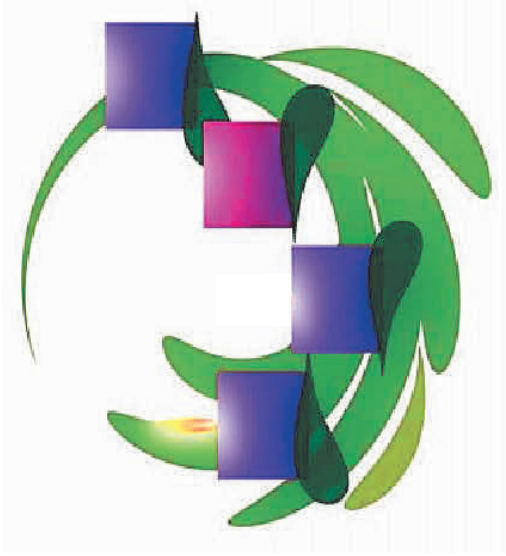


November 29, 2020

The First Sunday of Advent



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Messiah Lutheran Church

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(256)721-0041 / www.mlutheran.org

SERVICE of WORSHIP *Setting 1 from Lutheran Book of Worship*

THE PRELUDE: *Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The King Shall Come

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1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And light tri - um - phant breaks,
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - io - rious, rose
 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race

When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a - wakes,
 But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn - ing sky.
 And left the lone - some place of death, De - spite the rage of foes,
 The day when Christ in splen - dor comes, And we shall see his face.

THE GREETING & KYRIE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

G Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

G A - men

THE SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

G And al - so with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...
Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen

HAND BELL SOLO: *Advent Medley*

Rebecca Alferink

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

THE PSALM

Psalms 80:1-7, 18

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel,
leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned
upon the cherubim

² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin,
and Manasseh,**

**stir up your strength
and come to help us.**

³ Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

⁴ **O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?**

⁵ You have fed them
with the bread of tears;
you have given them
bowls of tears to drink.

⁶ **You have made us
the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.

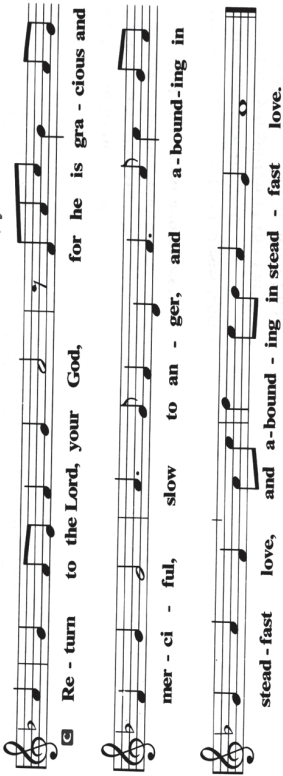
¹⁸ **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.**

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Return to the Lord, your God"



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing instead - fast love.

THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord.

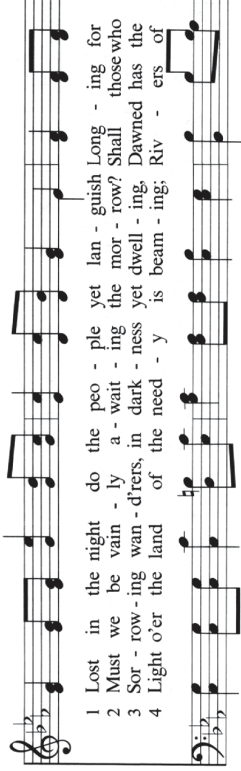


Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN: "Lost in the Night" vs 1,2,3,4

Lost in the Night

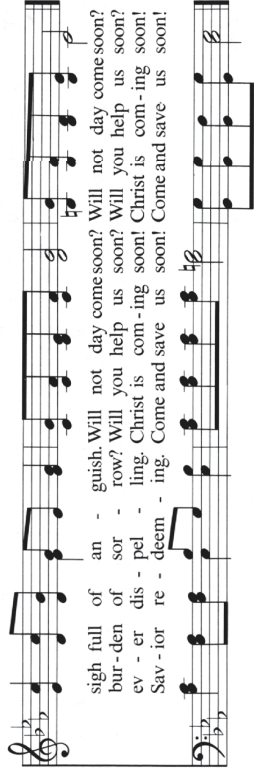
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1 Lost in the night do the peo - ple yet lan - guish Long - ing for
2 Must we be vain - ly a - wait - ing the mor - row? Shall those who
3 Sor - row - ing wan - d'ers, in dark - ness yet dwell - ing, Dawned has the
4 Light o'er the land of the need - y is beam - ing; Riv - ers of



morn - ing the dark - ness to van - quish, Plain - tive - ly heav - ing a
have light no light let us bor - row, Giv - ing no heed to our
day of a ra - diance ex - cel - ling, Death's dread - ed dark - ness for -
life through its des - erts are stream - ing, Bring - ing all peo - ples a



sigh full of an - guish, Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?
bur - den of sor - row? Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?
ev - er dis - pel - ling, Christ is com - ing soon! Christ is com - ing soon!
Sav - ior re - deem - ing, Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

THE SERMON

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,

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

THE 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.

THE BENEDICTION

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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

THE OFFERTORY: "Create in Me"

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a
right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

HYMN: "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" vs 1,3,5

34 Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2 Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord Who to your tribes on
3 Oh, come, strong Branch of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
4 Oh, come, blest Day-spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by your

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
Si - nai's height In an - cient times once gave the law
tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save
ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
In cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!
And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

5 Oh, come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*