

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 3, 2023
1st Sunday of Advent



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!

**Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve
God through worship, learning, and sharing.**

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick



ORDER OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The congregation is invited to stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C: Amen.

P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Everlasting God,

C: You love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

P: Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C: Amen.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE- HOPE

Reader One: When I look around, I see shadows of hunger. Particularly in this time of pandemic, so many neighbors, nearby and around the world, will go to bed hungry tonight.

Reader Two: When I look around, I see shadows of injustice, the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer—and someone somewhere will fall asleep under a bridge tonight.

Reader One: In the face of hunger, we light a candle of hope.

Reader Two: In the face of injustice, in the face of despair, we light a candle of hope.

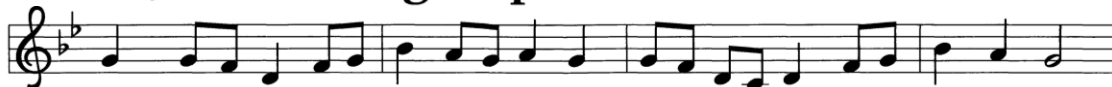
Light the first candle in your Advent wreath.

Reader One: Let the light from this candle say to all that God's hope is coming on earth as it already is in heaven.

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;
 dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
 Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

JEFFERSON
 87 87 D

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

Leader
 In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly
 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for
 mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your
 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your
word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have
Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.
mer - cy. A - men.

Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The congregation is invited to sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Children (through 6th grade) dismissed for Sunday School.

FIRST LESSON **Isaiah 64: 1-9**

L: The first lesson is from Isaiah, the 64th chapter.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence ²as 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! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From 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. ⁵You 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. ⁶We 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. ⁷There 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. ⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

-tone



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REFRAIN



Psalm 80:7
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.
- ²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.**
- ³Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.
- ⁴**O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray? R**
- ⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.
- ⁶**You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**
- ⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.
- ¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ for yourself. R**
- ¹⁸And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.
- ¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved. R**

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

L: The second lesson is from 1 Corinthians the 1st chapter.


⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

The congregation is invited to stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL Mark 13:24-37

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then 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. ²⁸“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. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It 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. ³⁵Therefore, 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, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

The congregation is invited to sit.

The congregation is invited to stand.

THE ANNUNCIATION

Luke 1:26-28, 30-32, 38

Leader: And angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God most high.” And Mary said, “I am a servant of my God, I live to do your will.”

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Magnificat

Luke 1:46-55

All

1., 3. My soul pro-claims your great-ness, O God, and my
 2. You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up -

spir - it re-joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
 lift - ed the hum-ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
 won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
 Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,

strong is your kind-ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the
 strong is your jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom-ised to

weak and low-ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart!
 Sar - ah and A - bra-ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

D.C.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

A: Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all A: corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief especially those we say aloud or silently in our hearts... Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this community of faith and for its Call Committee. For your wisdom and love. Give us holy indifference that we may be indifferent to our own will. Through your Holy Spirit, help us to be unwilling to do anything but your will. Give us patience and guidance as we seek to know what you would like us to do. Bless all that we do, so that we can do what you bless. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

P: Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to sit.

OFFERING

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Frank Lee

**Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heav’n and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

Refrain

**I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**“Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

**Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.**

Lyrics by Civilla D. Martin Music by Charles H. Gabriel Public Domain

The congregation is invited to stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

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Let My Prayer Rise Up

All

Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be - fore you, the

lift - ing up of my hands as an of - fer - ing to you.

Leader or Group One

O God, I call to you, come to me now; oh, hear my

All or Group Two

O God, I call to you, come to me

voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise up like
now; oh, hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise

in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my hands as an
up like in - cense be - fore you, the lift - ing up of my

of - fer - ing to you. Keep watch with - in me, God;
hands as an of - fer - ing to you. Keep

deep in my heart may the light of your love be burn - ing
watch with - in me, God; deep in my heart may the light of your

bright. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -
love be burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise up like

fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to
in - cense be - fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an

you. All praise to the God of all— Cre - a - tor of
of-fer-ing to you. All praise to the

life; all praise be to Christ and the Spir - it of love.
God of all— Cre - a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the

Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be - fore you, the
Spir-it of love. Let my prayer rise up like in - cense be -

lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.
fore you, the lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

Text: *Holden Evening Prayer*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 141
 Music: Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The congregation is invited to sit.

COMMUNION

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

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O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
 Music: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
 Text and music © Geonyong Lee

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People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

 of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

 trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
 Music: French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934
 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates
 Arr. © 1999 Novello & Co. Ltd., London

BESANÇON
 87 98 87

The congregation is invited to stand.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray,

C: **Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

BLESSING

Leader or Assistant *All*
 Let us bless our God: Praise and thanks to you.

Leader or Assistant
 May God, Cre - a - tor, bless us and keep us, may

Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the Spir - it of Love be our

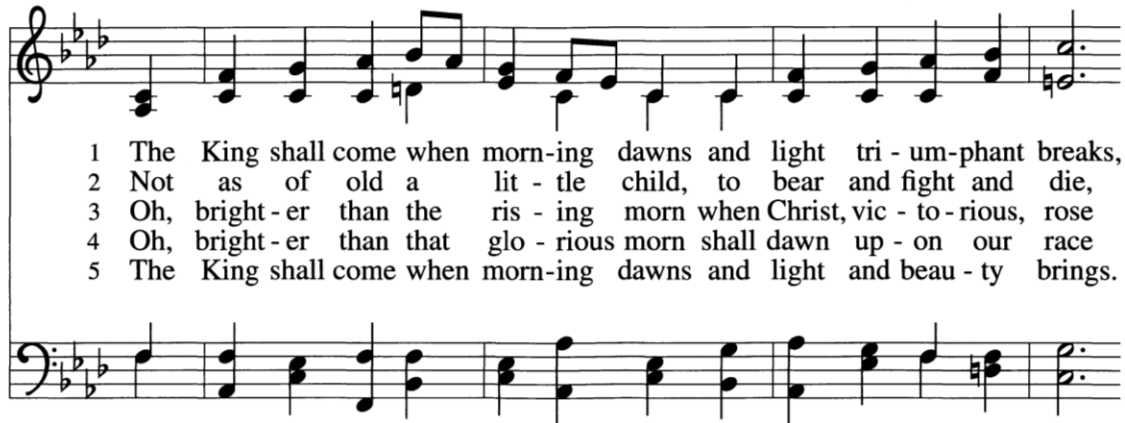
guide and path for all of our days. *All*
 A - men.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1990, 2016 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

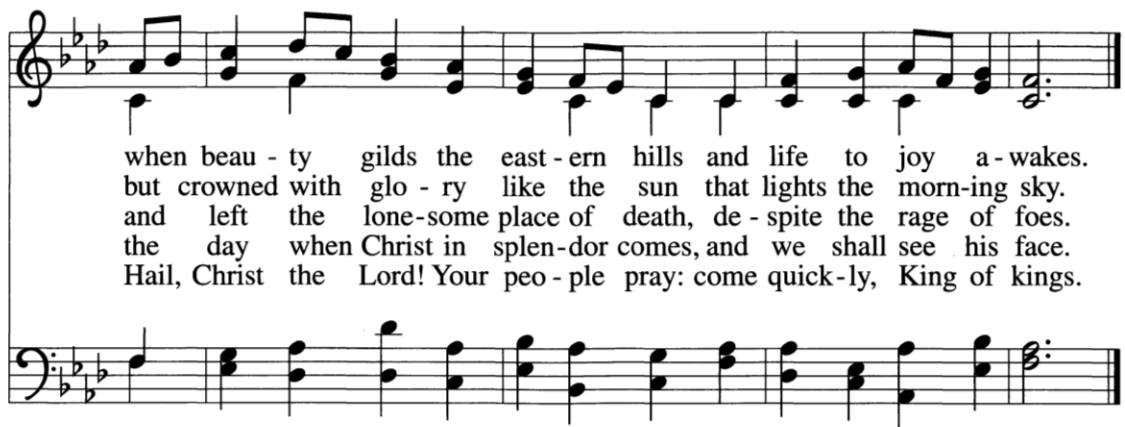
SENDING HYMN

The King Shall Come

260



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 - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



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.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925
Music: A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929–2003
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

CONSOLATION
CM

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

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