

Sunday, Dec. 1; 9:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

(Acolytes light the candles)

Linda Ranney

Advent Litany and Candle Lighting

ELW #257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs. 1, 3

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

(music continues under spoken word)

L1: At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming.
O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

L2: We gather together to expect the unexpected and imagine the
unimaginable. O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

L1: We wait for the day when God will recycle tanks into tractors
and transform minefields into soccer fields. O Emmanuel,

Wake us up to your coming.

L2: We stay awake by telling stories that offer a glimmer of a future

and agitate dormant hope within us. O Emmanuel,
Wake us up to your coming.

L1: Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of this candle, whose flame brings warmth to winter and fills this place with the glow of hope.

Amen.

(An Acolyte lights the first candle.)

Vs. 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. *Refrain*

Apostolic Greeting

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.**

Kyrie

ACS Setting 12

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Canticle of Praise

ACS Setting 12, vs. 1

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Stir up your power, **Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be

saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."


Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25

To You, O Lord by Michael Joncas

(cantor sings refrain first time, assembly joins thereafter)

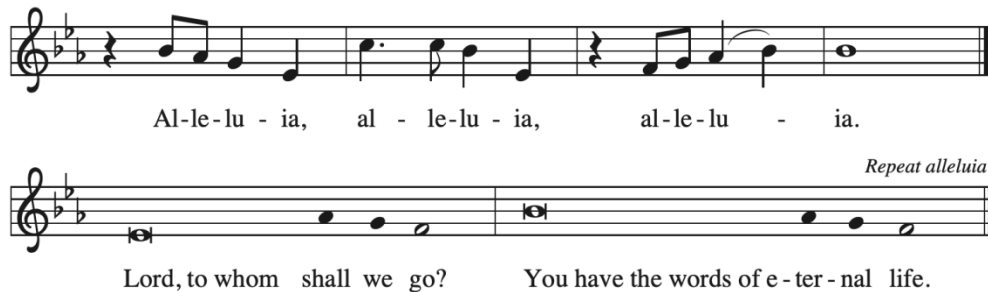


To you, O Lord, to you, O Lord, I
lift up, I lift up my soul.

1. Your ways, O Lord,
make known to me;
teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.
2. Good and upright is the Lord;
thus he shows sinners the way.
The humble he guides to justice;
he teaches the humble his way.

3. Kindness and constancy
the paths of the Lord
for those who keep covenant with him.
The friendship of the Lord
with those who revere him,
his covenant for their instruction.

Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*



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

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *(please sit)*

“The Nearness of God” - Pastor Christine Emerson

Hymn of the Day *(please stand)*

ELW 245; *Creator of the Stars of Night* vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

- 1 Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.

- 2 When this old world drew on toward night,
you came; but not in splendor bright,
not as a monarch, but the child

of Mary, blessed mother mild.

- 4 Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.
- 5 To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally. Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism (*please sit*)

Tyeanna Segura, daughter of David and Stacey LaRose
Sponsors: Jean Jirovec and Diana Hogenson

Nolahn Segura, son of Joshua and Tyeanna Segura
Sponsor: Noah Estrada

Rolland Segura, son of Joshua and Tyeanna Segura
Sponsor: Noah Estrada

Zayne Segura, son of Joshua and Tyeanna Segura
Sponsor: Noah Estrada

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

All: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

All: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

All: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God, the Father?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(The baptism party gathers around the font.)

Sponsors: We present Tyeanna Segura for the sacrament of holy baptism. We present Nolah, Rolland, and Zayne Segura for holy baptism

Pastor: Tyeanna, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ? **I do.**

Pastor: Parents, as you bring Nolah, Rolland, and Zayne to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with them among God's faithful people, bring them to the word of God and the holy supper, teach them the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in their hands the holy scriptures, and nurture them in faith and prayer, so that they may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to fulfill these promises?

Parents: We do.

Pastor: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Tyeanna, Nolah, Rolland, and Zayne in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: We do.

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support Tyeanna, Nolah, Rolland, and Zayne, and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

People: We do.

Pastor: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that he who is washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Pastor: Tyeanna, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Nohlan, Rolland, Zayne...

All: Amen

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Tyeanna, Nohlan, Rolland, Zayne with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

Pastor: Tyeanna, child of God you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.** Nohlan, Rolland, Zayne...

Pastor: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Amen.**

(The candle is to remind us that we carry the light of Christ throughout our baptized life.)

Pastor: Let us welcome these children of God into the community of faith.

All: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

(The child, parents and sponsors may return to their seats.)

Prayers of the People

Petition: Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you.

(Ushers collect offering. Begin at the back of the sanctuary on the inside aisle and collect as you move to the front and continue around to the outside aisle returning with the offering to the Gathering Area. One usher collects offering from balcony.)

Offering *(please sit)*

Linda Ranney

Offertory *(please stand – Acolytes receive the offering at this time)*

ELW #244; *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* vs. 1,4

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.

- 4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!

Offertory Prayer


Let us pray. Creator God,
**you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.**
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
**Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

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.

Proper Preface

Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

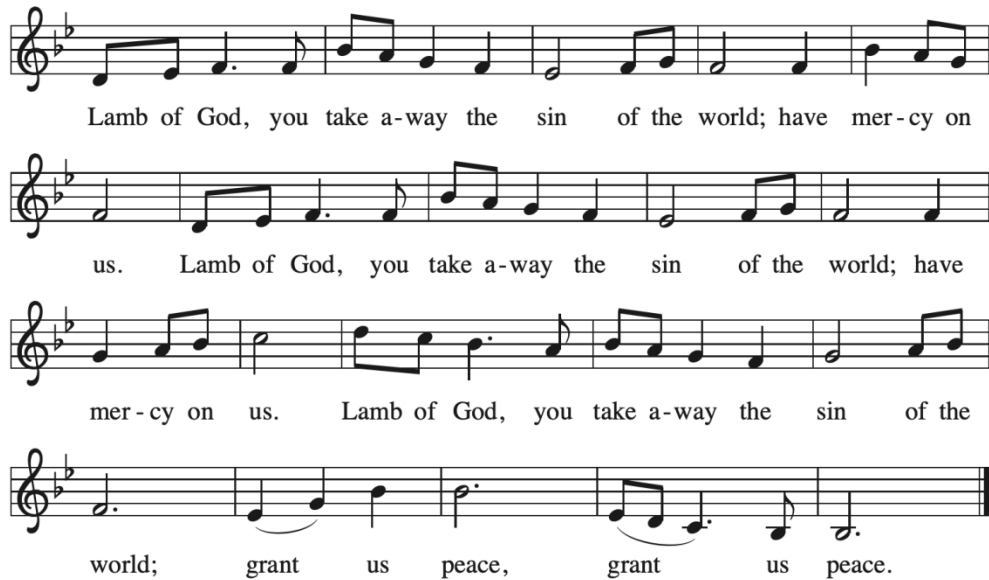
The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Invitation to the Table *(please sit)*

(Acolyte- comes forward for communion. The 2 ushers will go to the front of the Sanctuary and begin releasing worshippers to receive a wafer and wine.)

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, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

ELW #715 *Christ Be Our Light*

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*
- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,

shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer (*please stand*)

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

Let us pray. Generous God,

**we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.**

**We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.**

**We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.**

**Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.
Amen.**

Benediction

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ACS #902; *Come Now, O God*

- 1 Come now, O God, when our love is forsaken.
Come, when our bedrock of faith has been shaken.
Come, when our deepest of hopes are mistaken.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.
- 2 Come, when we squander the freedom you gave us.
Come, break the systems of sin that enslave us.
Come, though we wonder if you can still save us.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.
- 3 Come, put an end to our self-serving madness.
Come, while the world is enshrouded in sadness.
Come, turn the tears of our mourning to gladness.
Come, Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

Sending

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Altar Flowers

In Memory of Karey Johnson by Janet Andrews

Serving at Worship Today

Presider – Pastor Christine Emerson

Assistant – Jean Jirovec

Lector – Brandi Fuchs

Acolytes – Lauren Leonardson, Xavier Olson

Ushers – Ron Norby, Norb Kirk

Greeters – Lynn Yolitz, Patti Sontag

Communion Servers – Patti Sontag, Mark Sontag, Louise Alt, Eric Nielsen

Camera System – Scott Olsen

Power Point – Maxx Christopherson

Opportunities Bulletin – Frank Larrabee

Musicians – Linda Ranney, organ/piano; Alexa Doeble, Ted Simpson vocalists

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