



Sunday, November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Announcements

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Loving and forgiving God, **we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free – free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: Hark, the Glad Sound

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: **Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sin and enlighten our walk in the ways of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

L: We praise you, O God, for these lights that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

C: **As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.**

**Light one candle on the wreath. Light one candle of hope;
Hope for the world to calm its fear, hope for the news we long to hear,
Hope in a child who will soon appear. Light one candle of hope.**

Special Music: Toni Brekke

Scripture Readings

First Reading: 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.

L: Word of God; word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth
before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
Stir up your might,
and come to save us!
Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.
O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?
You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.
You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
our enemies laugh among themselves.
Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.
But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one whom you made strong for yourself.
Then we will never turn back from you;
give us life, and we will call on your name.
Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

L: Word of God; word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: I 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.

L: Word of God; word of life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 13th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

"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.

Message: Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Sermon Notes:

Hymn of the Day: Blessed Be the God of Israel

Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free and raises up new hope for us:
a Branch from David's tree. So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.

With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall, the oath once sworn to Abraham,
from foes to save us all; that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise,
in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.

My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way, to tell God's people they are saved
from sin's eternal sway. Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and
never cease to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

Prayers

P: Stir up your strength, O God. **C: Come to help us.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

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.**

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

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.
The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.
The saints, who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore,
shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
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!



PRAYERCARE Darlene Mueller & family, Don Grover, Donna Lindgren, Vicki Ford, Dave Danberg, Geri Swenson and the family of Andy Swenson, the family of Duane Rudquist, Caroline Greene, Nia Glynn, Doris Fors, Ann Rue, Helen Swanson, the Hackmann Family, the family of Joe Mallery, Dan Petersen, Julie Valez, the family of Margaret Dale, Marcielle Rogers, Cleo Stomberg, the family of Brian Maloney, Leo Nelson, Caren Carlson, Rose Anderson, Gail Johnson & the rest of David Clow's family, Yutaro Nakanishi, the family of Annie Lindgren, Cheryl Slattengren, the family of John Solheim, and Deb & Jerry Rhoads and family of Marilyn Burnes.

Intergenerational Faith Formation:

Lighting Festival

Take a drive and look at all the Christmas lights! There are a lot of displays this year! A map can be found on their website and on their facebook page.

Annual Lighting Festival ornaments are available at downtown shops for \$12

Visit our Intergenerational Faith Formation page on our website for an Advent Craft and educational video on Advent.

Need Pastoral Care?

Call Pastor Dwight 651-829-4884

Have questions or in need of something?

Church Office: 651-465-5265

Office Hours:

Monday 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday 8:30am - 12:30pm

Thursday 8:30am - 11:30am

Email: parishc@tflutheran.org
(this email is checked daily)

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Wendy Szczepanski

Craig Loen

Miriam Flysjo

Becky Hulden

Rose Anderson

Congratulations to Eleanore Collins! 2020 Royal Lady of the Village



Video Credits

Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Toni Brekke: Organ

Becky Hulden: Vocals

Don Hansen: Lector

Carli Linngren: Photography

Angie Linngren: Photography, Filming & Editing