

SEEING



through a NEW lens

EPIPHANY SEASON

Advent Lutheran Church
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January 30, 2022

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Pastoral Welcome

Prelude

"Joyful"

Annette Nolan

Confession and Forgiveness

L: We gather in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

L: Let us confess together.

C: God, we confess that sometimes we prefer to hide under cover of darkness where we justify our actions and behaviors as if they were secret and hidden from you.

We become calloused by our apathy.

We become complicit by our silence.

We become co-opted by our desires.

But, your light of true freedom shines *even* in the darkness, calling us to a more excellent way.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

L: God has forgiven you all your sins in Jesus Christ and filled you with the power of the Holy Spirit. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify God forever.

C: Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Greeting

L: 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.

Prayer of Illumination

L: God, give us the courage to be revolutionary as your Son Jesus Christ was.

Give us the courage to loosen ourselves from this world.

Teach us to stand up free and to shun no criticism.

God, it is for your kingdom.

Make us free, make us poor in this world;

then we will be rich in the real world, which is what life is all about.

God, thank you for the vision of the future, but make it fact and not just theory.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Acclamation

Laura Torrence

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

+ Prayer by Henri J.M. Nouwen, from *With Open Hands*.

The Message

Song of the Day

“Although I Speak with Angel’s Tongue”

Laura Torrence



1 Al - though I speak with an - gel’s tongue, my faith, my
 2 For love is pa - tient, love is kind, and nev - er
 3 For now we peer at dark - ened glass; our vi - sions
 4 The gifts are man - y, the Bod - y one, and in - to



knowl - edge all sur - pass, but have no love, my gifts are
 vain with boast - ing pride; love bears all things, all things en -
 end; our tongues all cease. In part we know, in part now
 one are all bap - tized. Be - lov - ed, share one heart, one



vain as clang - ing gong or blar - ing brass.
 dures. All things must end; love will a - bide.
 see: then we will see love face to face.
 mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

I believe in God, the creator of the universe,
 who spoke, “Let there be light!” and there was light,
 setting in motion all of creation and blessing it to this day.

I believe in Jesus Christ,
 the Light that shines in the darkness,
 And the darkness cannot overcome it.
 He embodied humanity in the image of God,
 and suffered for the greater good.
 He atoned for our sins
 and died on the cross for us,
 God’s saving grace!

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the guiding light of God in our world.
Through his spirit,
God conquers the darkness of human sin,
helps people grow and become the people they are meant to be.
I believe in the power of transformation,
here in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

L: Gracious God, you knew us before we took our first breath.
You uttered your living Word and brought forth light, love, and life.
You have gathered us from the dust of the earth and called us your people.
You have sent us into the world to proclaim your mighty and wondrous deeds.
You are always with us.

A brief silence.

L: Gracious God, we pray this day:
for all who have a song they cannot sing,
for all who have a burden they cannot bear,
for all who live in chains they cannot break,
for all who wander homeless and cannot return,
for those who are sick and for those who tend them,
for those who wait for loved ones and wait in vain,
for those who live in hunger
and for those who will not share their bread,
for those who are misunderstood,
and for those who misunderstand,
for those who are captives
and for those who are captors,
for those whose words of love
are locked within their hearts
and for those who yearn to hear those words.
Have mercy upon these, God.
Have mercy on us all.⁺

L: Gracious God,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God, source of healing, we pray for family and friends who are undergoing tests, facing surgeries, and dealing with illness. As we speak their names, we bring them to you in the confidence that you love them and know their every need and that your healing power will bring comfort and restoration. Bless all that is being done for their recovery and answer our prayers as you see best.

L: We especially pray for:

- Val Allred
- Lemont Bell
- Steve Bowers
- Ida Chisolm
- Charliese Eichler
- Jack Forrest
- Ross Holshouser
- Donnell Horton
- Waylon Kuklantz
- Ray Matthews
- Andrew Milholland
- Dave Miller
- Leo Peeler
- Joyce Quigley
- Shannon Roberson
- Richard Schulz
- L. D. Shockley
- Leni Taite
- David Townsend
- Laura Tucker
- Herbert Watson
- Velia Watson
- Jack Wert
- Tona Wert
- Renate Wilson

L: And for the deepest hopes of our hearts, we pray now.

Time for the community to pray.

L: We pray for our guests at Room in the Inn this past Monday: Trina, Wade, Jennifer, Kevin, Buddie, Ronald, Barton, Debra, Kimberly, David

L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially:

- Amy Hill, friend of Connie Searing, who died January 5
- James Chisolm, member of Advent, who died January 17

L: By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

L: Gracious God,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God, source of compassion, we pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers, especially with the rapid rise of hospitalizations and the new surge of coronavirus infections. Strengthen and encourage them as they continue to serve and work on behalf of the health of our communities.

L: Gracious God,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, you have called us through the goodness of your grace to be your hands and do your work, to be your voice and share your words, to bring healing to a fallen world and wholeness to broken lives. Let your light shine through us and light the path for others, so that all may experience your love and share in the joy of your Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

C: 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 pow'r and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Post-Communion Blessing

L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Franciscan Blessing

L: May God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

May God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

And may God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

Laura Torrence

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is a simple, melodic line. The lyrics are: "En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá / The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,". The second staff continues the melody: "pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal. / to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live." The third staff has a repeat sign at the beginning: "Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar / The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain". The fourth staff continues: "un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor; / to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;". The fifth staff continues: "me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad. / that falls to you and me and all who are made free." The sixth staff concludes the piece: "A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad. / Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day." The piece ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.