

Gather Us, O God



Advent to Gather
Advent Together

Advent Lutheran Church
8840 University City Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28213
(704) 549-1555
www.adventlu.org

October 10, 2021

Pastoral Welcome

Opening Prayer

L: My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.+

Prelude

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Annette Nolan

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

L: My brothers and sisters, the scripture tells us that in moments of stillness we become more aware of God. As we prepare ourselves for confession, we enter a moment of silence and open ourselves to God's presence.

A time of silence.

L: God,

**C: I commit my failures as well as my successes into your hands,
and I bring for your healing the people and the situations,
the wrongs and the hurts of the past.
Give me courage, strength and generosity to let go and move on,
leaving the past behind me, and living the present to the full.
Lead me always to be positive as I entrust the past to your mercy,
the present to your love, and the future to your providence. Amen.+**

P: God, by your forgiveness, you have created in us clean hearts and renewed in us – *once again* – the joy of your Holy Spirit. By faith, take hold of this forgiveness and experience the abundant life of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen

+ *Opening Prayer* written by Thomas Merton.

+ *Confession* attributed to St. Augustine.

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 wisdom to perceive you, intelligence to understand you, patience to wait for you, eyes to see you, a heart to know you, and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.⁺

C: **Amen.**

The First Reading

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

The Gospel Acclamation

Laura Torrence

Verse 1

Alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia

Verse 2

I will praise him, alleluia

CCLI Song # 16811. Jerry Sinclair

CCLI License # 2705565

The Holy Scripture

Mark 10:17-31

The Message

⁺ *Prayer of Illumination attributed to St. Benedict.*



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

L: God of infinite patience and wisdom, we come to you with so many things that claim our time, our energy, our resources, and our very lives. We are easily drawn away from you by our desire to meet our own needs of security, power, and affection; and we find ourselves owned by our possessions and held captive by our treasures. Nevertheless, you are a God of healing and hope, and you transform our lives from captivity to freedom. By the grace of your Holy Spirit, help us to place our lives and our trust in you, so that we may move at the impulse of your love as we live and follow you.

L: In your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: God of compassion, you call us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. We pray for all our sisters and brothers who seek comfort, healing, refuge, rest, peace, wholeness, community, acceptance, and unconditional love.

L: We especially pray for:

- Michelle Arzadon
- Scott Barger
- Lemont Bell
- Dallas Collins
- Michael Corbin
- Charliese Eichler
- Jesse Frisina
- Dwight Hartsell
- Donnell Horton
- Mark Hough
- Alyssa Jensen
- Waylon Kuklantz
- Ray Matthews
- Gilbert Naber
- Mark Navtaril
- Leo Peeler
- Ron Pittman
- Sherry Rengstorf and Family
- Calvin Roberson
- Richard Schulz
- Lynda Stellenberg
- David Townsend
- Laura Tucker
- Joyce Veit
- June Vincent
- Herbert Watson
- Renate Wilson

L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name.

Time for the community to pray.

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

- Ethan Govan, Charlotte 1st grader who died of COVID on September 19th
- Kristen McCartney, friend of Alyssa Schrader, died on September 20th
- Michele Lowder, cousin of Shawn Allread, died on September 26th
- Dale Anderson, uncle of Gloria Strickert, died on September 27th
- Pastor Fred Rengstorf, friend of Fred & Gloria Strickert, died on October 4
- We also pray for the family of Lewis and Beverly Williams as they gathered to celebrate their lives and their faithful witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ yesterday

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: We give thanks:

- For the marriage of Paul Hartsell and Alaina Liggett on September 24th.

L: In your mercy

C: Hear our prayer.

L: God of all healing, we pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers, especially with the rapid rise of hospitalizations and the new surge of coronavirus infections. We give thanks for the development and availability of multiple vaccines, and we are bold to pray that those with vaccine hesitancy would choose to be vaccinated. Strengthen, encourage, and comfort us in the days ahead to rest in your peace amid anxiety, frustration, and worry.

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, we offer these prayers to you, those spoken and those still unknown to us. Give us peace to trust you with the timing and the answers you provide. We ask all these things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Preparing the Table

"One Bread, One Body"

Advent Ringers

The Words of Institution

*This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me*

*And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

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.

*This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me
And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

P: 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.

*This is the living Lord
This is the living Lord
Your very blood given for me*

*And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

*This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe*

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

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.

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

"Lord, Let Your Servants Go in Peace" (Canticle of Simeon)

Rob Beyersdorf

Lord, let your servants go in peace;
we who have long waited.
Fearful with doubt,
we still kept watch in the night.
Now we see your light.

Lord, let your servants go in peace;
we who were rent asunder.
Biased and blind,
we labeled foes who were friends.
Now we make amends.

Lord, let your servants go in peace;
for you have kept your promise.
With our own eyes
we see salvation is won,
born in Christ, your Son.

GIA Publications, Inc. 2004 | Michael Mahler

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**