

Advent Season 2022



December 4, 2022

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

www.adventlu.org

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Pastoral Welcome

Prelude

"Come, Emmanuel" (Pepper Choplin)

Sanctuary Singers

Lighting the Advent Wreath

L: Into our world as into Mary's womb . . .

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

L: Into the forgotten places as into the stable . . .

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

L: Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope.
Into the lives of the powerful, bringing caution.
Into the lives of the weary, bringing rest.
Into the lives of the complacent, bringing restlessness.

And into our lives . . . every moment . . . making our hearts Your Bethlehem.

C: Come, Lord Jesus and be born in us.

Gathering Song

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" (vv. 1 & 2)



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Advent Announcement

L: This is the good news: Christ is coming and blessed are those who wait on the Lord.

C: Therefore, come quickly, Lord. Amen.

Affirmation of Baptism

L: We begin by making the sign that was made on the day of our baptisms.
We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: As we see the light the Christ candle, we remember the words that were said when we were baptized:

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

L: Brothers and sisters, in Baptism, God brings us into his family and calls us his own. By Baptism, God gives us the gifts of faith, love, life, forgiveness, and strength, and asks to respond in faithfulness to him and in service to others.

I ask those who are affirming their baptisms today, do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:

- to live among God's faithful people;
- to hear his Word and share in his supper;
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,
- and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

C: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

L: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people 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, both now and 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 *(Prayer written by Henri Nouwen)*

L: Let us pray. God, as stores fill with shoppers, tempting offers flood our emails for online shopping, and Christmas songs play 24/7, you lead us along a different path: A prophetic voice calls us, *once again*, out into the wilderness and down into the waters of River Jordan.

A call to repentance. A call to service.

A call to immerse ourselves in the living water that will never run dry.

A call to prepare the way in our own lives for the Savior of the world to enter in.

A call to know the touch of your tender mercy and the rest in your forgiving love.

For all your faithful prophets throughout history and your Living Word read and proclaimed, we give you thanks.

In the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Acclamation

“Emmanuel”

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.

CCLI Song # 12949 Bob McGee

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The Holy Scripture

Matthew 3:1-12

Children’s Church

The Message



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Prayers of the Faithful

- L: Lord Jesus Christ, may to greet you as you come to us in ways both familiar and new. Help us to prepare your way and to announce your coming in love to others. Take our lives and transform them to your glory. Take our hands and transform them to your service. Take our voices and transform them to your way of healing. Take our hearts and transform them to be your dwelling place.

L: Come Lord Jesus,

C: hear our prayer.

- L: Lord Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, we pray for the courage to step into the rough places of unrest and conflict and down into the valleys of struggle and hardship in our own communities and in the world to bring about a new way of shalom and justice, so that all people can experience your saving presence.

We pray for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters who have openly resisted the invasion of their country and who have sacrificed so much for the cause of justice, as well as other countries that are dealing with political unrest and conflict; for Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Yemen, Israel-Palestine, Haiti and Myanmar.

We pray for the start of *Room in the Inn*. May all those who enter the doors of Advent Lutheran find warmth, safety, and hope. We pray for the ongoing work in Charlotte for affordable housing and for policies that support the integrity of all neighborhoods.

L: Come Lord Jesus,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Lord Jesus Christ, source of compassion, hear us now as we pray for those families and friends you have placed upon our hearts.

L: We especially pray for:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ▪ Dale Blish | ▪ Joe Moeller |
| ▪ Darrin Carr | ▪ Jacob Mosher |
| ▪ Helen Cheyney | ▪ Melissa Nobles-Titchenell |
| ▪ Terence Connelly | ▪ Jane Ogilvie |
| ▪ Charliese Eichler | ▪ Terry Park |
| ▪ Vincent Frisina Sr. | ▪ Reagan Poli |
| ▪ Dwight Hartsell | ▪ Joyce Quigley |
| ▪ Susan Hartsell | ▪ Mary Rohlk |
| ▪ Tom Hawk | ▪ Diane Round |
| ▪ Tracy Heberlig | ▪ Jack Schulte |
| ▪ Jim Hintz | ▪ Eric Sossoman |
| ▪ Carol Hollingsworth | ▪ Ron Stemple |
| ▪ Gary Homesley | ▪ David Townsend |
| ▪ Donnell Horton | ▪ Laura Tucker |
| ▪ Amy Hull | ▪ Michelle Veit |
| ▪ Kim Johnson | ▪ Laverne Waskielis |
| ▪ Ashley King | ▪ Herbert Watson |
| ▪ Waylon Kuklantz | ▪ Lisa Williams |
| ▪ Gene Lajuenesse | ▪ Renate Wilson |
| ▪ Bobbi Larson | ▪ Chuck Wolfe |
| ▪ Kevin Middleton | |

L: In silence, let us make our own specific prayers for those on our hearts and minds today.

(Silence)

L: Come Lord Jesus,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Come among us, Lord Jesus Christ and hear our prayers. By your Holy Spirit, gather them and join them with the prayers of all your people as we wait with patience for your return and prepare our hearts for your arrival.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Offering

(Please sign and pass the pew pads)

Offertory Song

"Rejoice"

Table Prayer

L: God of mercy and grace,


C: **you open your hand in blessing and your abundance flows unending. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

The Words of Institution

"Come and See"

L: On the night that Jesus was betrayed, in an upper room. He took the bread and blessed it as he said, "Here's my body broken for you." He took the cup and raised it up on high, bowed his head and prayed. And then he said, "My blood for you is shed, a cleansing stream to wash your sin away."

Congregational Response



1 Come and see the glo - ry of the Lord. Come, be - hold the
2 Come and give thanks un - to the Lord. Come, be - hold the



Lamb. Come and see the mer - cy of the King,
Lamb. Come and sing the prais - es of the King,



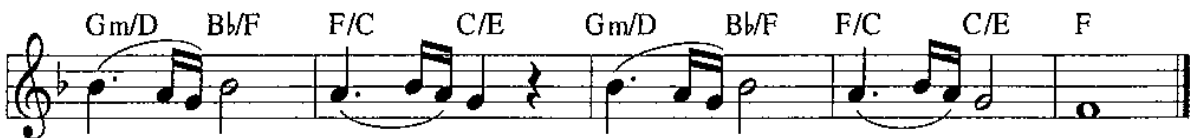
bow - ing down be - fore him.
bow - ing down be - fore him. For he is



Lord a - bove the heav - ens, Lord in all the earth,



Lord of all the an - gels, wor - thy to be served.



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, Lord.

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.

"Lamb of God"

1 Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 2 Lamb of God, I'm ask - ing you to
 (3) pre - cious blood of Je - sus Christ

sin of the world. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way my sin. I con - fess that
 cleans - es me from sin. The pre - cious blood of

take a - way the sin of the world.
 I've done wrong, I need your help a - gain.
 Je - sus Christ cleans - es me from sin.

Refrain

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
 mer - cy on me. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have

Last time to coda ♪
 mer - cy, have mer - cy on me. *D.C.*

Coda ♪
 Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The Blessing

L: 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

Benediction *(A Holy Land Blessing, Father Potter of Peckham)*

- L: May the babe of Bethlehem bring you peace.
May the child of Nazareth bring you joy.
May the man of Galilee bring you strength.
May the Christ of Calvary bring your courage.
May Risen Jesus bring you hope.
May the ascended Christ bring you a foretaste of his glory.

C: Amen

Sending Song

"Do You Hear What I Hear"

Daniel Pietruszka

Dismissal

- L: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.