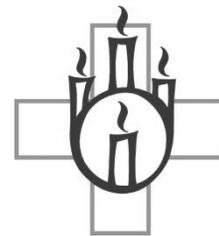


The First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2020

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Hermiston, Oregon
Christ Alone Lutheran Church Lone, Oregon



Hymn #332 vv. 1-4 “Savior of the Nations, Come”

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Family: To “fulfill” means to bring a thing to completion.

C: This week we remember that the bright glory that spilled onto Bethlehem’s hillsides

Family: And the more radiant dawn that broke on that Easter morning –

Family: was first sparked to life by those given a vision of God’s bright future

C: Today we light The Prophets’ Candle

Family: Saint Peter wrote: “. . . we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” 2 Peter 1:19-21 NIV

L: Let us pray . . . Father, we praise You for the word of the prophets. We praise You for the promises made and the promises kept in Christ Jesus. Help us, we pray, to hear and heed Your word of grace . . . in Jesus’ name. Amen.

The first candle is lit as the Congregation sings vv. 1-2 of Hymn #357 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord’rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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L: Lord, may the light of this first candle, as it dispels the darkness around it, help to remind us that You have dispelled the darkness of death and sin in the world and in our lives and declared us to be the light of the world.

C: Help us we pray to be Your faithful light to the lost. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Hymn #332 vv. 7-8 “Savior of the Nations, Come”

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

L: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: Who made heaven and earth.

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

L: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, Who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence — ² as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil — to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways.

Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

recited by all

Zechariah 9:9 & Psalm 118:26

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

**Behold, your King is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.**

Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless You.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Mark 13:24-37

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And 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.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn #349 “Hark the Glad Sound”

Sermon

Offering

The Apostles’ Creed

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

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Hymn #341 “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the faithful proclamation of Christ’s saving name, that God’s people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this congregation, its mission and its people; for the ability to meet the needs that arise as we do the work God has given us to do; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the educational institutions of our synod: for our preschools, our day schools and high schools, our colleges and universities, and for our seminaries, that those who teach and those who learn in them would be transformed by the wisdom of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they may use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and sciences, that God would grant them skill and integrity in the performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their vocations, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God’s great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful, generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the Church and to help those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who are sick (*here we pray for those needing healing and health*), that God would grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who mourn, that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they may always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lutheran Service Book, page 162

Matthew 6:9-13

**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

1 Thessalonians 3:13

L: May the Lord strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones.

C: Amen.

Hymn #387 "Joy to the World"

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