



Faith Lutheran Church

***Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,
and Caring through Christ***

**First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018**



PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Date _____ Envelope # _____

✝

My Offering to My Church

Name _____ Amount \$ _____

Address _____

**Please remember to stop in the back of church and get your 2019 Offering box.
Thank you!**



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



P: Blessed by the Holy Trinity, + one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

C: Amen.



P: Let us come before God in confession.
To you, O God,

**C: we lift up our souls. You know us through
and through; we confess our sins to you.
Remember not our sins; remember us with
your steadfast love. Show us your ways;
teach us your path; and lead us in justice
and truth, for the sake of your goodness
in Jesus Christ our Savior. 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.**



P: 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.**



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.”



Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man."
With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent our Lord in word and supper.

C: Amen.





Lighting of the 1st Advent Candle



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

C: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



CHILDREN'S CHURCH



FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from Jeremiah, the 33rd chapter.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.



In those days Judah will be saved and
Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the
name by which it will be called:

“The LORD is our righteousness.”

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



A Responsive Reading From Psalm 25

R: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**C: My God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be put to shame,**



R: Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are
treacherous.

**C: Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach
me your paths.**



R: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have trusted all the day long.

C: Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.



R: Remember not the sins of my youth
and my transgressions; remember me
according to your steadfast love and for
the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

C: **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**



R: You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

C: All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.



SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from 1st Thessalonians, the 3rd chapter.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.



And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.



“ALLELUIA”



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.



GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

P: The holy gospel according to Luke,
the 21st chapter.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus said: “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.



People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.



So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.



For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON

“SIGNS OF THE SEASON”



HYMN OF THE DAY *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.**



**Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**



THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living
and the dead.**



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



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation. *(A brief silence.)* Equip your church, merciful God. Secure our roots in the soil of your eternal word. Ease our worries and remove our shame. Grow our faithfulness and let your steadfast love blossom among us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.



P: Sustain your creation, holy God.
Water the parched soil. Restore depleted fields. Send farmers, forest rangers, and gardeners to care for fig trees and wheat fields, gardens and arboretums. Increase our love for the land. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.



P: Grow peace within us, abundant God.
Raise up leaders in every community
grounded in your justice and mercy.
Increase their love for all people.
Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.



P: Feed the hungry, living God. Gather our harvest into a feast for our neighbors. Move us to nurture those who are bereaved and lonely. Empower those living with HIV/AIDS and all who are sick (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.



P: Increase our joy, wondrous God.
Plant thanksgiving in our hearts and multiply
the good fruit of our outreach ministries and
creation care programs (*especially*).
Guide us in our service to local and global
neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.



P: In thanksgiving, we remember all who have died and now rest in your glory. Hold all who mourn in the comfort of your eternal light, and bring us to delight in the new life you promise. Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.



P: Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.



SHARING PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

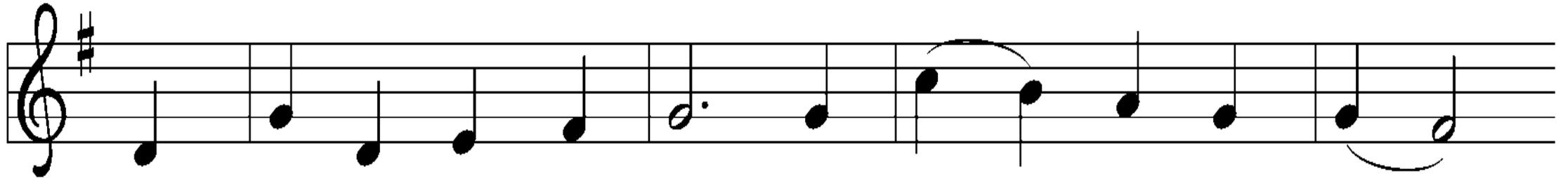
C: **And also with you.**



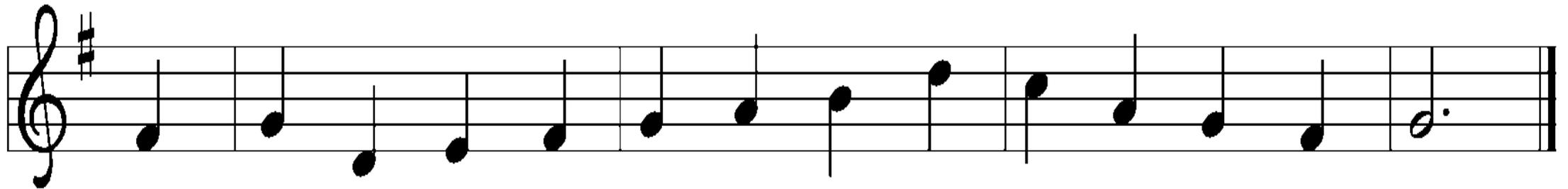
~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
***“I Need A Silent Night”* by Amy Grant**



OFFERTORY RESPONSE



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.



OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your son, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.



DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.



~ COMMUNION ~



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and
Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.



CLOSING HYMN “*Soon and Very Soon*”

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King!

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King!

Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

We are going to see the King!



No more crying there, We are going to see the King!
No more crying there, We are going to see the King!
No more crying there, We are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
We are going to see the King!



No more dying there, We are going to see the King!
No more dying there, We are going to see the King!
No more dying there, We are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
We are going to see the King!



Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King!
Soon and very soon, We are going to see the King!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
We are going to see the King!



DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



















































