



St. George Lutheran Church

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December 4, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

**Welcome! We are glad you're here! A warm welcome is extended to all!
Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.**

Welcome and Announcements

Sharing the Peace

Centering Prayer

Gather around, you are welcome here, and you will hear Good News.

In a world where there are so many discouraging and negative voices it is the God of encouragement who will speak to us today. The God of Jesus Christ.

So come in, relax, let your tiredness and anxiety roll away.

Lift up your hearts, and listen.

(silent prayer)

Youth Message

Advent Candle Lighting

Prepare, for the day of God's coming draws near!

Prepare for hope.

Merciful God, when we look around, the promises of your Kingdom seem so distant.

Grant us tenacity:

to bring light where there is darkness;

peace where there is strife, comfort where there is despair.

Let the light of your presence shine in us, so that all may know that the darkness will not win.

(Hope Candle is lit)

Prepare for peace.

Holy God, may the divisions between us be erased. May we, people of all backgrounds, walk with one another; listen to one another; bear one another's burdens. May we be peacemakers in everything we say and do.

(Peace candle is lit)

We light these candles, and we pray:

Come Lord Jesus! Open our lives to the hope and peace which you bring; let us turn to you, and get ready!

Candles of Advent

Words by Don Besig and Nancy Price Music by Don Besig

Light one candle in the night.
Light one candle of Hope;
Hope for the world to calm its fear,
Hope for the news we long to hear,
Hope for the child who will soon appear.
Light one candle of hope.

Light one candle in the night.
Light one candle of peace;

Peace that will free the world from war,
Peace that will last forever more,
Peace through the child we are waiting
for. Light one candle of peace.

Advent candles warm and bright fill the
world with radiant light.
Help us find the Promised One; guide us
to the Child who will come.

Opening Song:

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria
In excelsis Deo
Gloria
In excelsis Deo

Angels We Have Heard on High

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

CCLI Song # 27721 CCLI License # 3054064

Your Great Name

Lost are saved find their way
At the sound of Your great Name
All condemned feel no shame
At the sound of Your great Name
Ev'ry fear has no place
At the sound of Your great Name
The enemy he has to leave
At the sound of Your great Name

Jesus worthy is the Lamb that was slain
for us
The Son of God and man
You are high and lifted up
And all the world will praise
Your great Name

All the weak find their strength
At the sound of Your great Name

Confession and Forgiveness

Prayer of Confession (inspired by Isaiah 11: 1-10, Psalm 72, Matthew 3:1-12)

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God,
**our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but sometimes
our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take
second place.**

Forgive us, O God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life.

Merciful God,

**May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your
breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and
Savior. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Blessed be the Lord our God, who does wondrous things. (Psalm 72: 8) The most
wondrous of all being God's entry into our world in Jesus Christ, "*not to condemn the*

Hungry souls receive grace
At the sound of Your great Name
The fatherless find their rest
At the sound of Your great Name
The sick are healed the dead are raised
At the sound of Your great Name

Redeemer my Healer Lord Almighty
Defender my Savior You are my King
(REPEAT)

Sing the Name of Jesus
We worship the Name of Jesus
We bow before Jesus
There is no other Name but Jesus
CCLI Song # 5393329 CCLI License # 3054064

*world, but that the world might be saved through him." "Those who believe in him are not condemned." (John 3:17,18) **Thanks be to God!***

~ adapted from Jane Stranz's Of Life, Laughter and Liturgy blog. <http://stranzdocs.blogspot.ca/2007/12/advent-liturgy-for-visit-of-archbishop.html>

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Song

O behold the mystery now unfolds
See the star shine
on the virgin foretold
Angels sing and light up the sky
Hope rings out in a newborn's cry
Swing wide you ancient gates
For Christ is born today

Prepare Him Room

CCLI Song # 7031880 CCLI License # 3054064

Prepare Him room prepare Him room
Let the King of Glory enter in

God with us the promise
has come to be
This the one the prophets
were longing to see
In the darkness a blazing light
To the hungry the words of life

Announcements

Bible Study: Thursdays at 10:00 at the Parish House and via Zoom.

Advent by Candlelight: Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30 PM.

Annual Meeting: Today, December 4th at Noon.

Mid-Week Advent Service: Wednesday, December 7th at 5 PM. This service will include a meal and "The Walk of the Magi," an experiential journey from the perspective of the magi. Please sign up.

Needleworks: Thursday, December 15th at 11:30 AM.

Musikgarten: Friday, at 10 AM.

Prayers of Grace & Support

Please pray for:

- Bryan Rush for a successful court date coming soon.
- Bill Foster in assisted living.
- Kathy Boyes recovering.
- Melissa Alofalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue, beginning with MS and COVID.
- Bob Lusky, father of Bob and Lorna's son-in-law David, who has cancer.
- Qamar family, Gail's students, traveling to Pakistan for month of November.
- Ray, Alia's older brother, who has COVID along with severe RA and heart problems.
- Dottie Woodman, recovering.
- The family of Michael Biber, following his passing in October.
- Arlene, Alia's friend, suffering persistent pain in her neck, shoulder and arm.
- Lisa, friend of Tessa, having heart valve replacement surgery Oct 26.
- Margret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.
- Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.
- Dr. Laura Tinning Reistar, Douglas and Arlene Turner's niece, is in the care of hospice and her husband.
- Nancy Briggs, Douglas Turner's sister, for healing.
- Dan Lindberg, cousin of Kathy and Keith Boyes, has pancreatic cancer.
- Carrie Weiland recovering from surgery.
- Barb Gienapp with health concerns.
- Noah Taylor, friend of Kathie Wilhem's son, following a bad auto accident.
- Ethan and his mom, Marianne, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles. From Linda Walton.
- Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.

- Joan Richardson, dealing with health concerns.
- Cindy Brach with health issues.
- John Brach with health issues.
- Prayers for all those suffering in Ukraine.
- Charlie Davis, Marylou's husband, with cancer.
- Jon Brach and his family with health and life difficulties.
- Pan Norton, Cindy Brach's son's mother-in-law.
- Jackie (Gail's piano student) diagnosed with throat cancer.
- Arline Petersburg with medical issues.
- Theresa Pope, fiancé of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.
- Niece of Elaine McIntyre, Patsy McIntyre Costin, diagnosed with colon cancer.
- Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother -in-law, with auto-immune disease.
- Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.
- Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.



St. George is a warm, friendly, spirit-filled congregation that has been blessed throughout many years. Most Christian denominations develop a distinct emphasis of the Christian faith and practice, and this is also true for Lutherans.

The Lutheran emphasis, in a word, is God's grace.

We emphasize the grace of God which forgives us, makes us God's children, and empowers us to serve others. **We welcome, include, and value all people.**