## Second Sunday of Advent

## ~ December 4, 2022 ~ Faith & First

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

## Confession and Forgiveness LBW pg. 56 ELW pg. 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***C: Amen.***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

***C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.***

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

***C: Amen.***

**Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath “*Waiting, Preparation, Joy, Light*”**

Advent is a time of waiting. We light the first candle to remind us that

we are waiting for God to come. **First candle is lit.**

Advent is also a time of preparation. We decorate, shop, and bake to get

ready for Christmas.

We also prepare ourselves for Jesus to come, by reading his story, by

praying and singing, and by sharing with others.

We light the second candle to remind us to prepare. **The second candle is lit.**

From Mark 1: “The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son

of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, ‘See, I am sending my

messenger ahead of you who will prepare your way; the voice of one

crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord make his paths

straight.’”

Let us pray: God of peace, we look forward to the time when the earth is

full of your glory, when righteousness is at home and peace reigns in all

the world, May we prepare for that day by working together for justice

and peace. Amen.

**Gathering Hymn *“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”*** vs. 1 & 2

 WOV #630 ELW #240

Vs. 1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
 He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

Vs. 2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
 He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

 **Greeting** LBW pg. 57 ELW pg. 138

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.***

**Kyrie** LBW pg. 58 ELW pg. 138

 P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

 P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

 ***C: Amen.***

**Hymn of Praise** LBW pg. 58ELWPg 138

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

 **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10**

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David’s royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. 2The 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. 3His 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; 4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek 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. 5Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. 6The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. 7The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. 9They 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.

10On 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.

**Psalm: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

1Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king’s son.

**2that he may rule your people with righteousness, and the poor with justice.**

3that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**4Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor. May the righteousness flourish; let there be an abundance of peace.**

5May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

**6Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**

7In his time may the righteousness flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**18Blessed are you, Lord God, the God of Israel; you alone do wondrous deeds!**

19And blessed be your glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

**May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace.**

**Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13**

*God’s promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God’s blessed people has be fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other jus as Christ has welcomed them into God’s family.*

4Whatever 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.

5May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, 6so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. 8For 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 patriarchs, 9and in order 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”; 10and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; 11and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; 12and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

13May 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.

**Gospel:** **Matthew 3:1-12**

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a peaceful one who is to come.*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 2“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” 3This 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.’” 4Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, 6and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

7But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8Bear fruit worthy of repentance. 9Do 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. 10Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 11“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12His 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.”

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1-4*** LBW #34

Vs. 1 Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive

 Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here

 until the Son of God appear.

***Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!***

 ***Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.***

Vs. 2 Oh come, oh, come, great Lord of might. Who to your tribes on

 Sinai’s height In ancient times once gave the law.

 In cloud, and majesty, and awe. ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 Oh come, strong Branch of Jesse, free Your own from Satan’s

 tyranny; From depths of hell your people save,

 And give them vict’ry o’er the grave. ***Refrain***

Vs. 4 Oh come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by your

 Advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,

 And death’s dark shadows put to light. ***Refrain***

**ELW #257**

Vs. 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive

 Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here

 Until the Son of God appear.

***Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice!***

 ***Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.***

Vs. 2 O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things

 Far and nigh; in strength and beauty come and stay;

 Teach us your will and guide our way. ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on

 Sinai’s height in ancient times you gave the law

 In cloud, and majesty, and awe. ***Refrain***

Vs. 4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan’s

 tyranny; from depths of hell your people save,

 and give them vict’ry o’er the grave. ***Refrain***

**Apostles’ Creed** LBW pg. 65ELW pg. 105

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 the People**

 **“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” WOV #775 ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world the yearns for new hope.

God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones, especially

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You embrace all who have died trusting in your promised, ad we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” WOV #775 ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray, God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus, Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving** LBW pg. 68ELW pg. 145

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 to the Lord our God.

***C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**Words of Institution**

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.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

***C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

**Lord’s Prayer** LBW pg. 71ELW pg. 145

P: Let us pray as Jesus has taught us.

***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**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Blessing**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord’s face shine on us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and + give you peace.

**Sending Hymn *“Prepare the Royal Highway”*** LBW #26 ELW #264

Vs. 1 Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!

 Let every hill and valley, a level road appear!

 Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

***Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God’s word!***

Vs. 2 God’s people see him coming; your own eternal king!

 Palm branched strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!

 God’s promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you; ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!

 Your king, yet every nation its tribute too may bring.

 All lands will bow before him, their voices join your singing; ***Refrain***

Vs. 4 His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav’n above.

 His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth and love.

 So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: ***Refrain***

**Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Christ is coming soon!

***C: Thanks be to God!***

***TURN YOUR MIC OFF!!***

**Postlude**