

First Sunday in Advent



10:00 am (online)
November 29, 2020
Zion Lutheran Church
Camas, Washington
360-834-4201 Office

Susan Dollinger, Associate Pastor

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

Leslee Froehlich

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.
Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: ***we confess that we are in bondage 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: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer for Thanksgiving

Pat Hagensen

For flowers that bloom about our feet, Father, we thank Thee.
For tender grass so fresh, so sweet, Father, we thank Thee.
For the song of bird and hum of bee, for all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.
For blue of stream and blue of sky, Father, we thank Thee.
For pleasant shade of branches high, Father, we thank Thee.
For fragrant air and cooling breeze, for beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.
For this new morning with its light, Father, we thank Thee.
For rest and shelter of the night, Father, we thank Thee.
For health and food, for love and friends, for everything Thy goodness sends,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Gathering Hymn

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

Number 679

- 1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
- 2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done. In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done. In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God. For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

First Reading – Norm Bembenek

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— ²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. ⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

Responsive Reading – Mike & Ruth Ladage

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading – Madlin Baltzell

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

L: Lord of God, Word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

Special Music

"Come Ye Thankful People Come"
arr. Ted Smith, Don Hustad

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel Reading- Paul Dailey

Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?" ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

Message

Pr. Susan Dollinger

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Sitler Family

Lord God, You who sent into the world Your Beloved Son as a light that shines in the darkness, invest this wreath, our Advent symbol, with the power of Your energy and light.

With each of these candles lighted may we rekindle within ourselves the desire to prepare a way for the birth of Christ. With each new candle that is lighted, may the flame of Christ's coming grow brighter and brighter so that this Christmas may see a fresh and ever-green coming of the Lord of Light into each of our hearts and into our whole world.

Candle is lit

We pray, then, that the richness of God's blessing rest upon this Advent wreath, upon our homes and upon each of us as we light this candle in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

v. 1 Number 240

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

Hymn of the Day *"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"* Number 242

- 1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning. Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing. Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together, he opens wide the heav'nly door and lives now inside us forever.
- 2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a-singing, his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing; music to heal the broken soul and hymns of lovingkindness, the thunder of his anthems roll to shatter all hatred and blindness.
- 3 In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing, as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring. Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder, the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.
- 4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless, the rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless. Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story; may God fill ev'ry day we share and bring us at last into glory.

Nicene Creed

- C: ***We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the***

prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Things to Pray For during the Advent Season – Judy Swanson

Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.

Pray for peace in all situations, no matter what the circumstances.

Pray for freedom from all that burdens you - past mistakes, fears, destructive habits, hurts other people have inflicted, and more.

Pray for joy and a sense of humor.

Pray for confidence in God's love for you and trust in His power to work things out for the best in your life.

Pray for a genuine awareness of God's grace in your life and the humility to extend grace to others.

Edited from Whitney Hopley's Pray for Simplicity this Advent

Prayers of Intercession – Christina McElhaney, Emily McElhaney

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

Gracious God, you send from your abundance the people, talents, and resources needed for all the ministries of your church. We give thanks for the work you have accomplished through your people, and we pray for your continued blessings in our ministry together. We lift up the quilters who have provided the community with quilts and masks, to Zion for their generosity to help others in need and provide food, and funds to local ministries. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, you open our hearts in compassion for one another. We give you thanks for the care and healing received through the hands and feet of your servants. Send us to love those most in need of your mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Healing God, we pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. We pray for shelters like the WHO and ministries like Treasure House that feed and care for those who are vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses. We lift up Beth Farrington in her recovery from surgery and all those whom we pray for out loud or in our hearts. Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle or hurt. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Connecting God, we remember all the saints that have gone on before us during this time. We recognize and pray for all those who miss a loved one and find an empty chair at the table. Help us remember to reach out to those who say they are fine but may be lonely or grieving. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever. ***Amen.***

Prayer for Advent – Kelly Bruce

Lord, we are weary travelers seeking peace this Advent season. You have promised rest for the weary, victory for the battle-scarred, peace for the anxious, and comfort for the broken hearted. Through our wounds and trials, we remember to call you, "Wonderful," "Counselor," "Mighty God," "Everlasting Father," and "Prince of Peace." Let our hearts find peace with You.

Peace

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with you as you journey into this season. **Amen.**

Please share a time of peace online with one another using the chat comments or with someone next to you or spend this time in prayer.

Advent Children's Message – Pam Ensley

The Lord's Prayer – Larry Malcom

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.

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and protect you.

May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace. **Amen.**

SENDING

Sending Hymn *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* v. 1-3 Number 257

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.
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*
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

Dismissal

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Our thanks to this morning's musicians:

Pat Hagensen, Patrick Murphy, Gary Ritter, Judy Swanson

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"For the Fruit of All Creation" Text: Fred Pratt Green;

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams;

Text @1970 Hope Publishing Co.

"Come You Thankful People Come"; arr. Ted Smith, Don Hustad;

@1986 Hope Publishing Co.

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" Text: Wayne L. Wold;

@1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" Text: Marty Haugen;

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

Text and music: @1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Text: *Psalterium Cantionum*

Catholicarum, Köln; sts. 2,6,7 @1997 Augsburg Fortress

Music: French processional