



*God's love, Our service.*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Sunday, November 27, 2022

### First Sunday of Advent

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#### INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

#### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The November Noisy Offering collection will go to Wreaths Across America chosen by Parish Ed Committee.



## First Sunday of Advent

*Use this blessing when lighting the first candle.*

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.  
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.  
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.  
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.  
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,  
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

**Amen.**

### ADVENT WREATH HYMN ELW 240, v 1

#### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

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

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

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### PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 436

#### Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

- 1 Wake, awake, for night is flying,  
the watchmen on the heights are crying;  
awake, Jerusalem, at last.  
Midnight hears the welcome voices,  
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.  
The bridegroom comes! Awake;  
your lamps with gladness take!"  
Alleluia!  
Rise and prepare the feast to share;  
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.
- 2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
and all her heart with joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.  
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,  
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:  
her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
Now come, O Blessed One,

Lord Jesus, God's own Son.

Sing hosanna!

Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
and follow to the banquet hall.

- 3 Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!  
Let saints and angels sing before you,  
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.  
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming,  
lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,  
with angel choirs around your throne.  
No eye has caught the light,  
no ear the thund'ring might  
of such glory.  
There we will go: what joy we'll know!  
There sweet delight will ever flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite

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**Greeting** page 120

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**KYRIE** Pg. 120

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power,

**Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

*The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>Many peoples shall come and say,  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD!

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 122**

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." (Ps. 122:1)*

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

<sup>2</sup>**Now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built as a city  
that is at unity with itself;

<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup>For there are the thrones of judgment,  
the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
"May they prosper who love you.**

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls  
and quietness within your towers.

<sup>8</sup>**For the sake of my kindred and companions,  
I pray for your prosperity.**

<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek to <sup>1</sup>do you good."

**Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14**

*Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.*

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling

and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** page 124

*Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 24th Chapter.*

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44**

*Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.*

[Jesus said to the disciples,] <sup>36</sup>“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

<sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”



**CHILDREN’S SERMON LION PUPPETEERS** “Light the Candles of Advent”

**SERMON** Pastor Len Dale

## **HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 254

### **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

1 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.

2 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.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

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## **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**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope. *A brief silence.*

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church

to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care (*especially*). God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (*especially*). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. 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.**

## **PEACE**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, .....  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy** pg. 130

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God, who has come to save you.



### **COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION SONG** pg. 134

**COMMUNION HYMNS** ELW 487

#### **What Feast of Love**

- 1 What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!
- 2 What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!

#### **The Word of God is given!**

- 3 What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
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**Each Winter As the Year Grows Older**

- 1 Each winter as the year grows older,  
we each grow older, too.  
The chill sets in a little colder;  
the verities we knew  
seem shaken and untrue.
- 2 When race and class cry out for treason,  
when sirens call for war,  
they overshout the voice of reason  
and scream till we ignore  
all we held dear before.
- 3 Yet I believe beyond believing  
that life can spring from death,  
that growth can flower from our grieving,  
that we can catch our breath

and turn transfixed by faith.

- 4 So even as the sun is turning  
to journey to the north,  
the living flame, in secret burning,  
can kindle on the earth  
and bring God's love to birth.
- 5 O Child of ecstasy and sorrows,  
O Prince of peace and pain,  
brighten today's world by tomorrow's,  
renew our lives again;  
Lord Jesus, come and reign!

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.  
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The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Faithful God,  
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,  
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.  
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,  
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.  
Guide us toward your promised future,  
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together  
following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in  
Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you  
will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## BLESSING

God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

✝ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 244

### Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing,  
and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising  
and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
at midnight comes the cry.
- 2 The watchers on the mountain  
proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches  
with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
the bridegroom is at hand.
- 3 The saints, who here in patience  
their cross and suff'rings bore,  
shall live and reign forever  
when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
the Lamb they shall behold;  
in triumph cast before him  
their diadems of gold.
- 4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, O Sun so longed for,  
o'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption  
that sets your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907

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## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

### **St. Mark's members:**

Jane Scherrer,  
Donna Nichols,  
Donna Frenzl,  
Linda Westbrook,  
George McElroy,  
Nan Wolfe,  
Pete and Linda Cagle,  
Shane Paulson,  
Janet Schmidt,  
Susan & Bill Roberts,  
Phyllis Dettmer,  
Madison Young

### **Family & friends:**

Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,  
Michelle Ray, friend of Barbara Strampe's daughter,  
Karen Glenn & family, friends of Joni Benz,  
Jane Fetters, Sister of Joni Benz,  
Bill Benne, friend of Joyce and Louis Johnson,  
Ron & Susan Laliberte, neighbors of Barbara Strampe,  
Ed Colson, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Austin, Grandson of Jim & Mary Weeg,  
Jean, Hackler family member,  
Cindy Campbell, sister of Joni Benz,  
Lynn, Dennis & Sharon Thee, relatives of Barbara Strampe,  
John, brother of Ken Griffitt,  
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,  
Craig Aldag, Uncle of Ali Luin,  
Manuel & family, friend of Jenny Wheeler's grandson,  
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,  
Juliana Marie McClelland, friend of Susan Roberts,  
Andrew, friend of the Scherrers,  
Kenny Belcher, friend of Steve Benz,  
Craig Downing, Father of Joni Benz,  
Suzie, Aunt of Nancy Bryer,  
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,  
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,  
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,  
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,

Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,  
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,  
Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps,  
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,  
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,  
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,  
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,  
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,  
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,  
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,  
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,  
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's  
sister-in-law,  
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,  
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,  
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,  
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,  
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,  
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Families,  
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,  
All People affected by natural disasters

### **Those in the Military:**

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,  
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan