



Saint Peter's Lutheran Church  
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## First Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024

*\*Indicates to stand as you are able. P=Pastor, C=Congregation, A=Assisting Minister, L=Lector*

Welcome to the waiting room that we call Advent. Worship will start soon, but no one knows exactly when. It's a surprise. When the alarm sounds we'll all go inside. So stay awake. Look sharp. Be ready. This is Advent. Welcome to the waiting room, and remember, the waiting is part of our worship.

### ENTRANCE

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

#### Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ELW 257, st. 1

#### Litany

**L1:** At every beginning there is a yearning  
for the one who is coming.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

**L2:** We gather together to expect the unexpected  
and imagine the unimaginable.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

**L1:** We wait for the day  
when God will recycle tanks into tractors  
and transform minefields into soccer fields.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

**L2:** We stay awake by telling stories  
that offer a glimmer of a future  
and agitate dormant hope within us.

O Emmanuel,

**Wake us up to your coming.**

**L1:** Jesus, we welcome your presence now  
with the lighting of this candle,  
whose flame brings warmth to winter  
and fills this place with the glow of hope.

**Amen.**

*Light the first candle.*

#### Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ELW 257, st. 3

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

\*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world,  
reviving creation, arriving soon. \*C: Amen.

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

**\*C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority  
alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

\*P: God of might,

**\*C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors.  
We have trusted false promises.**

\*P: God in our midst,

**\*C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us.  
Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

\*P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have  
forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and  
forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**\*C: Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN**

### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

\*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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

\*P: 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.

**\*C: Amen.**

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US**

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

L: A reading from Isaiah the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.....(Lector)

**2** 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!

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 25:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord,  
I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O Lord,  
and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O Lord;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

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

L: A reading from Romans the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.....(Lector)

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already 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 throw off<sup>[a]</sup> the works of darkness and put  
on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and  
drunkenness, not in illicit sex 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.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

\*The Holy Gospel.....Matthew 24:36-44

<sup>36</sup> “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son,<sup>[a]</sup> 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 the 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<sup>[b]</sup> 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 hour you do not expect.

\*P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**\*C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Children’s Sermon

Sermon.....Pastor Sue Lynn White

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### EXPERIENTIAL STATION: NEWS PRAYERS

\*P: It is believed that the theologian Karl Barth once said, “We must pray with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.” The good news of Jesus is never hypothetical; it’s always intimately connected to context. Around us is news of the world. During the next several minutes you are invited to get up, grab a pen, read the news, and ask the Holy Spirit to move you to pray for the people and places in the articles. You are welcome to circle the articles and write prayers in the margins. Let us allow the world to enter our worship in order that our worship might enter the world.

### PRAYERS FROM THE NEWS PAPERS & INTERCESSIONS

\*A: Let us gather up our prayers to God for the world. You are welcome to speak aloud the prayers that are written on the newspapers. Let us pray.

\*Each prayer ends, A: Lord, in your mercy, \*C: **Receive our prayer.**

\*P: Emmanuel, in each story, in each situation, in each community, in each person you promise to be with us. While surrounded by so much news, we trust that your good news will

have the final word, the good ending, the new beginning that reconciles each of our stories with your great story.

\*C: **Amen.**

## PEACE

\*P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

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

\*P: Let us share the peace with one another.

## THE OFFERING

### Anthem

Offering Hymn..... ELW 884

## OFFERING PRAYER

\*A: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

\*C: **Amen.**

## MEAL PREFACE DIALOGUE

\*P: The Lord be with you

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

\*P: Lift up your hearts.

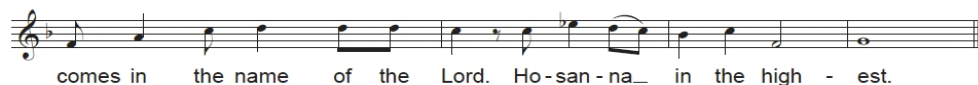
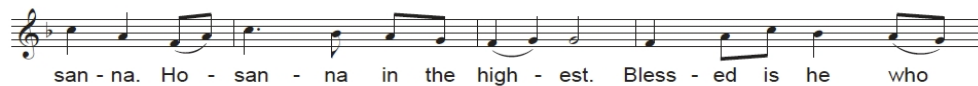
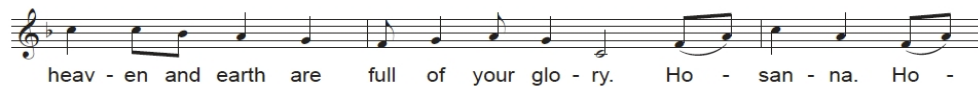
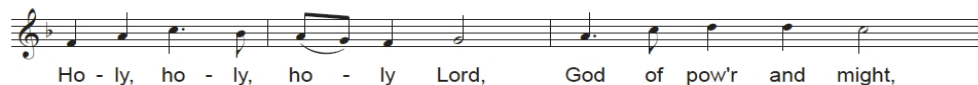
\*C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

\*P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

\*P: It is indeed our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

\*C: **Holy, Holy, Holy**



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

\*P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught.

**\*C: 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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

\*P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

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

### DISTRIBUTION

#### LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

### COMMUNION BLESSING

\*P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*A: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

**\*C: Amen.**

## SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### BLESSING

\*P: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, † bless and keep you now and forever.

**\*C: Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

### THE DISMISSAL

\*A: Rooted in the love of Christ

**\*C: We grow in grace and joyfully branch into a broken World!**

\*P: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

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

*\*Silent Prayer and Chiming of the Trinity  
Postlude*