



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH –
ELCA - 2nd SUNDAY of ADVENT
8:30 AM CST Traditional Worship
Sunday, December 4, 2022
Holy Communion Setting 4

Prayers Requests

Please Text-in-Church

314.329.0487

or Email Carrie at

Office@holycrosselca.com

Lifted during Prayer Time



GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together
as the people of God

Meditation Music *From Heaven on High, I Come Here*
arr. by Heinrich Scheidemann

WELCOME AND VISION MOMENT

PRELUDE *On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry* (Puer Nobis)
from *Jesus Shall Reign, Organ Music for Pentecost,*
Ascension and Trinity arr. by Anna Laura Page

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross.*

Blessed be the Lord, ☩ the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things. **Blessed be God's Name forever. Amen.**
Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God of great expectations, **We confess that we have been closed off to your reign of justice.**
We have strayed from your paths.

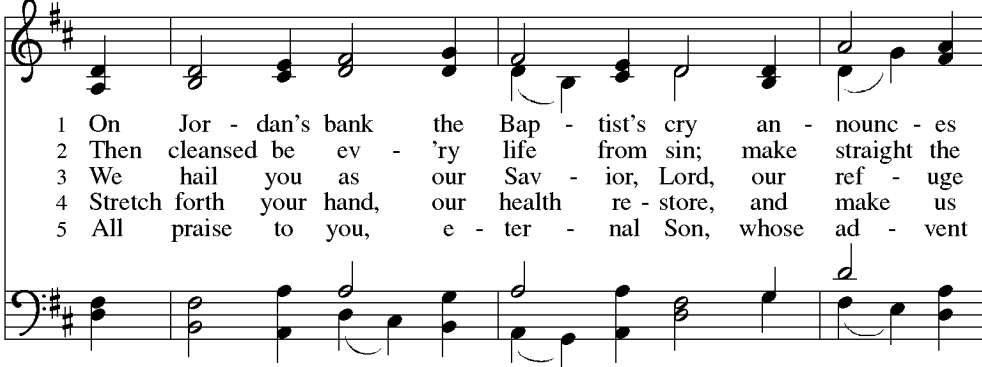
We expect war instead of peace.

We lower our expectations for life,
dishonoring one another and your creation.


Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your expectant way of love, that we may
bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming
among us. Amen.

People of God, expect the unexpected. God gives us living signs:
New things are growing in our midst and tender branches spring forth.
This is our life expectancy. By water and the Spirit we are joined to this wonder.
We have put on ☩ Christ, and our sins have been washed away.
Rejoice in the way of our God, where and when we least expect it.
Amen.

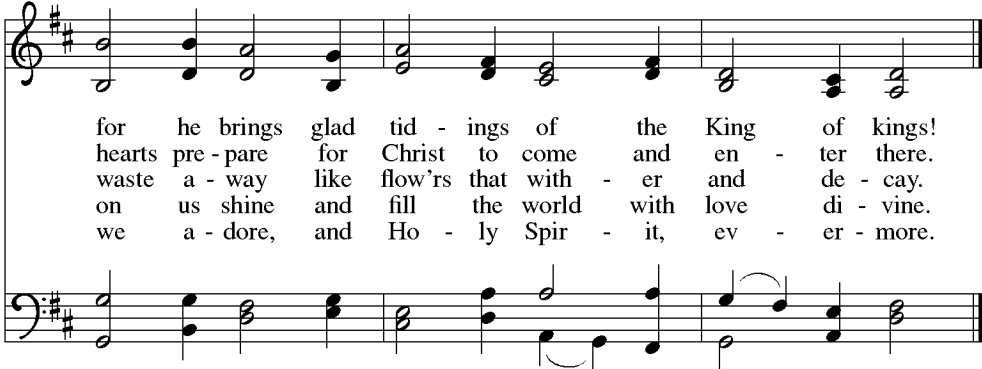
On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite
 Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

GREETING

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.**

Advent Candle Lighting (New Members 8:30 AM – Kyle Klobas and 10:30 AM – Lisa Sandberg)

L: Sometimes we see endings—axes razing trees and vines; predators stalking prey.

C: Yet, God still calls us to expect life, even from what once seemed beyond hope:

L: a shoot springs forth, fresh and new

C: the ash of a fire nourishes seedlings

L: the wolf and the lamb can rest together

C: for a peaceable world emerges, life expectant even from our hearts of stone.

L: And so we light this candle to shine forth with peace, for we know a new day is dawning even if the timing is unexpected.

C: We live in anticipation, awake to divine possibilities.

HYMN *Wait for the Lord* ELW 262 One License #00172

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community
Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ (holy pause).

Make lifeless stones a living people (holy pause)

Prepare us for reconciliation (holy pause)

Fill us with joy, peace, and hope (holy pause)

We ask this in the name of the One who brings salvation near. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10 Read by Worship Asst.

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.

¹A 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 Read by Worship Asst. and **ALL (in BOLD)**

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**
³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.
⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.**
⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁸**Blessed 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.

First, Gathering with the Kids for the Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12 Read by Pastor

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come. READING from the **SPARK STORY BIBLE** - pp 234-239. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.***

ADVENT 2022 MESSAGE - GREAT EXPECTATIONS- LIFE Expectancy!

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who in greatness created with a Word all that is and continues to be.
We believe in God, who is Word made flesh, Emmanuel, born of Mary, come to fulfill the expected promise: justice, mercy, peace, love; who was executed because our expectations were worldly, not divine; who rose to break the expectation that death has the final word. We believe in God who fills us with expectations; who pushes us to change; who moves us with her joy and gladness that we might be united to proclaim the Word full of grace and truth for an expectant people.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Led by the Worship Asst.

Anticipating the coming of God's redeeming love, let us pray for a world in longing expectation.

A brief silence.

God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn and song writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God of expectant life, **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 of expectant life, **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 of expectant life, **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. Today we pray for

Keith DeCamp,

Marian Newport,

Adam Jackson,

Leah Leimbach,

Betty Kent,

Preben Christensen,

Sionie Elavsky,

Lois Ristau,

Wally Kern (in assisted living for short-term duration),

Patrice & Family,

Sandy Andrews (lung cancer, fractured sternum, COPD and trouble walking, friend of Sandy Kalin),

Rich (diagnosed with leukemia, praying for 60%-70% chance of remission, Pastor's cousin's partner),

Frank Barnhart (recovering from eye issues and has new condition to manage),

Mary Bailey (test positive for covid),

Jeanna (surgery on 12/21 for throat cancer, friend of Susan and Mike Rockwell),

Susie Garrett (back discomfort),

Ginger Prellwitz (our new member is getting chemo-therapy),

Aunt Dorothy (Gary Prellwitz's Aunt),

Dave and Jane Ristau and their dog, Riley (university consultation and surgery for cancer and to remove eye, the Ristau's dog),

Congratulations to Dave & Jane Ristau on the birth of their granddaughter, Evelyn Jane Bragg, on Nov. 22nd!

Family of Riley Stone (he went to be with Jesus on 11/10, he is the son of Rick Stone and grandson of Rocky & Donna Stone),

The people of Ukraine and the people of Russia and all those affected by war.

moment of silence

God of expectant life, **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 our LCFS Work and the Parkway School District projects, *with the Holy Cross Vision Team in organizing our Service Work*).
God of expectant life, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered from Text-in-Church or by email.

Pastor: You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence.
Trusting that God knows our deepest longings, we offer our prayers with great expectation. **AMEN!**

PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you".
The assembly is seated.*

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING *Please offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through YOUR 2023 PLEDGE! (JUST DROP IN THE BASKET / PLATE AS IT IS PASSED.)*

- *E-giving through Vanco online*
- *Send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141*
- *Go to our Website & hit "DONATE NOW" <http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>*

The presiding minister instructs those communing at home to gather their bread / cracker / wine / grape juice elements to hold up during the Words of Institution

OFFERTORY *Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles* arr. by Dietrich Buxtehude

OFFERING PRAYER Led by Worship Asst.

God of Peace,
As we have received your abundance,
so we welcome one another to the feast you spread.
Use what we have gathered here for the flourishing of life. **Amen.**

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.**

Illuminating God, source of creation, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for your creative labor, bearing expectations for life and love.

When we strayed from your path and chose cruelty and despair, you spoke to us through unexpected prophets: Isaiah envisioned a blossoming desert;

Mary proclaimed a world turned upside down; John the Baptist cried out for repentance.

At this expectant hour, your Son Jesus came to bring us extraordinary love
and to heal all the suffering world.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AT THE TABLE

[Please lift up your elements for Communion when Communing at Home or with Fellowship Cups]

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life among us, his death as one of us, and his resurrection, the first of all of us, we anticipate his coming in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this meal we share:

that we may work for justice, build hope for your already but not yet reign,
and share the anticipated love and joy of your Son.

All glory and honor is yours, in your holy creation, both now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Unexpected and mysterious, Christ comes to us in this feast of grace.

Eat, drink, and be filled. **Amen.**

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for Home Communion.

COMMUNION *When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen. *The ministers commune after others commune.*

COMMUNION HYMN ACS #901 *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper* One License #G6835 **(SEE PAGE 9)**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads...*

In this meal we have experienced God with us

Ordinary made extraordinary: familiar made holy

As we are called forth from the table, may we awaken to divine justice

That these expectant days may be alive with (hope, peace, joy, love)

We pray this in the name of the one who has promised to come again,

Christ Jesus, our Savior. Amen

SENDING God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING *Pastor offers:* The God of Peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of Hope, ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING ADVENT HYMN ELW #266 *All Earth Is Hopeful* ONE LICENSE #50-0951 (SEE PAGE 10)

DISMISSAL *Worship Asst. offers:*

Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Sleeper's Awake, A Voice is Calling* arr. by Johannes Brahms

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WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Worship Assistant – Renate Hawn/Greg Miller

Organist - Jack Hamill

Singer – Linda Tyahla

Praise Band: Dave Reinking, Brandon Clay, Marty Little, Jason Cooper, and Matt Davis

AV/Camera Volunteers - Donovan Lucas, David Ristau, Philip Paul & Marcus Benson

Media Shout – Jane Ristau & Carrie Curnutte

Deacon - John Hanson/Donna Jackson

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



- 1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
- 2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
- 3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody
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All Earth Is Hopeful

Toda la tierra



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor

1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!

2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:

3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;

4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el

Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the

"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -

new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most

This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -

la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how

ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -

here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All

world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.

God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.

stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.

clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!

Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

- 2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:*
"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,"
será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será,
con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.
- 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*
nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.
Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,
y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.

- 4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*
pero en el mundo está presente hoy.
Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;
y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

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