

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
One Worship Sun Bulletin - Nov. 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion Setting Ten

Prior to Worship, please text Prayers into Holy Cross' "Text in Church" # 314.329.0487 & Pastor will lift them during Prayers of the People today

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

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

(Hyfrydol) from *The King of Heaven, Five Hymns of Praise for Organ* arr. by Anna Laura Page



CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.** *Silence is kept for reflection.*
Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.
Renew us each day in the light of Christ. **Amen.**

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for all of God's diverse peoples
from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**
Hymn *It is Good to Give Thanks* by Natalie

GATHERING SONG *Blessed Be the God of Israel (FOREST GREEN)* (ELW 250)

Blessed Be the God of Israel

1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,

and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.

So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might - y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease

God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944
Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
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GREETING (ELW p. 203)

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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 *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (ELW 240) Verse 1, 2 Times

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE 1

The first candle symbolizes HOPE and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.

Creator God, you are the light of the world! We long for your Presence to be with us as Your plan of redemption and grace for this broken world is realized. Give us hearts that see Your beauty and wait in HOPE for You to make all things good and new again.

[LIGHT the Prophet's Candle of HOPE!]

May Your light and love shine brightly in our hearts, spreading HOPE, Faith, Joy, and Peace to those around us! AMEN!

PRAYER OF THE DAY *The presiding minister free floats the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. We need your HOPE!...

---By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

A reading from Isaiah Read by Worship Asst.

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

¹O 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 Read by Woship Asst. & All read the bold

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
 stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God;
 let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
 how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
 you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
 and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
 let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
 the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
 give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Read by Worship Asst.

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE - SEEN AND UNSEEN!

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Spread HOPE not FEAR! By Pastor Janice
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Come Thou Fount*

Verse 1 **Come Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing**
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Verse 2 **I was lost in utter darkness**
'Til You came and rescued me
I was bound by all my sin when
Your love came and set me free
Now my soul can sing a new song
Now my heart has found a home

Verse 3 **O to grace how great a debtor**
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

CCLI Song # 4775010

Now Your grace is always with me
And I'll never be alone

Chorus Come Thou Fount come Thou King
Come Thou precious Prince of Peace
Hear Your bride to You we sing
Come Thou Fount of our blessing
Come Thou Fount come Thou King
Come Thou precious Prince of Peace
Hear Your bride to You we sing
Come Thou Fount of our blessing

CREED *The 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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE LED BY THE WORSHIP ASST.

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts in HOPE to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this planet in HOPE for the need of restoration: for devastated habitats, polluted waters, blazing fires, swelling floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and our relationship to it. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and HOPE! Give them the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed; welcome for those who are excluded; and relief for those who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity.

Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds through your HOPE. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses (*especially Leah with Schizophrenia*). Ease their suffering and give HOPE to support them when they and their families struggle.

Today we pray for ...Sionie (who had been hospitalized), Yeza (Yelena Barnhart's Sister), Jennifer (Renate's Daughter-in-law), Donna Potsos' Mother (Sophie), Marcus, Matt & Kendra, Tom, Megan, church-wide employees as they adapt to reorganization and those employees with positions eliminated, Marilyn, Keith, Luanne, Sandy, Renate, Myron and Patsy, Adam, Kelly, Clint and Jayne, Betty, Leah and Al, Wayne, Jim, Kevin, Dennis M, Bob, Tara, and Roger. For All in Quarantine. For Mike and Danielle & Family, Ryan & family are held in prayer on the death of Mike's brother, Jim. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered for THANKFULNESS...

We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn in HOPE for the completion of your redeeming work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God of HOPE, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

MEAL **God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ**

OFFERING *Please continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through*

- 1) Your established e-giving pledge through Vanco OR*
- 2) through a new mobile App called GIVEPLUS+ is available from your mobile store online*
- 3) send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141*
- 4) Go to our Website and 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 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. by Paul Manz

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' HOPES and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people. Fill us with your HOPE.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for HOME communion.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 208) *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 HOME ministers commune after others commune.*
Music – instrumental by Praise Band Member

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

3 WED NIGHTS' LIGHTS (ADVENT WORSHIP – 30 MIN CANDLELIGHT LIVE-STREAMED)

TOYS FOR TOTS – Bring unwrapped toys to the Church by Dec. 10th

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING SONG *Great Things*

Verse 1 **Come let us worship our King**

Come let us bow at His feet

He has done great things

See what our Savior has done

See how His love overcomes

He has done great things

He has done great things

Chorus **O Hero of Heaven You conquered the grave**

You free every captive and break every chain

O God You have done great things

We dance in Your freedom awake and alive

O Jesus our Savior Your name lifted high

O God You have done great things

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WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR

Worship Assistant & Presider Bud Niebling, PMA

Organist Jack Hamill PRAISE Band Brandon Clay, Jason Cooper, Paul Niehaus, & Marty Little

AV/Camera Volunteers Marcus Benson, Patrick Goertzen, Kylie Jost, David Ristau, Philip Paul

The Flowers Given by Cheryl Weiland for Joanne Way & Those Quarantined

Verse 2 **You've been faithful through every storm**
You'll be faithful forevermore
You have done great things
And I know You will do it again
For Your promise is yes and amen
You will do great things
God You do great things

Bridge

Hallelujah God above it all
Hallelujah God unshakable
Hallelujah You have done great things
(REPEAT)
You've done great things

Ending

You have done great things
O God You do great things