



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA

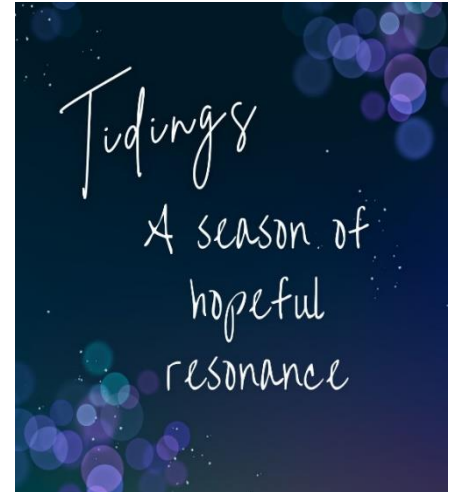
Spirit-Led, Community-Driven

December 6, 2023

7 PM CT Traditional Worship

WORSHIP ADVENT WEDNESDAY

2 in CHAPEL



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

MEDITATION GATHERING PRELUDE – *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* by J.S. Bach (Public Domain)

Lighting of the Advent Candle - PEACE & Call to Worship

by Worship Asst Confirmation Student & ALL in BOLD

C: A voice cries out.

L: This is the beginning.

C: The grass withers. The flower fades. The word of our God stands forever.

L: This is the beginning.

C: Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight paths for our God!

L: This is the beginning.

C: And so we light this candle to shine forth with peace, for tidings of the beginning bring comfort to all people.

L: This is the beginning.

(Now the ADVENT Candle is lit)

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT *by Pastor*

INTRO THEME FOR ADVENT - A season of hopeful resonance *

def: **The power to bring hope-filled thoughts, images, feelings, movements into minds/hearts of others! WELCOME to ADVENT SEASON!*

GREETING & PASSING OF JESUS' PEACE *During this time the minister and All 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.** *Then the assembly is seated.*

GATHERING HYMN *All Earth Is Hopeful* ELW # 266 One License # see page 5

READING **Isaiah 40: 1 – 11** *by Worship Asst Confirmation Student & Pastor*

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

Good news of God's coming to a people in exile

Ben: ¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

Pastor: ³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Ben: ⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Pastor: ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, 333333and gently lead the mother sheep.



READING 2 Peter 3:8-15a – Read by Pastor

Waiting for and hastening the day of God

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Advent 2: Tidings of the BEGINNING - MESSAGE OF THE NIGHT

PRAYER OF THE NIGHT – *by Worship Asst Confirmation Student*

These prayers are ones written by the Confirmation Students and their families for Advent

SENDING HYMN – *Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel* ELW # 257 Verses 1, 3, & 6

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

Refrain
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. *Refrain*
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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SENDING BLESSING - *by Pastor*

DISMISSAL

P: Go to share tidings of hope, peace, joy, love, great joy for all people.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Come, Thou Long Expected Savior* by Michael Burkhardt (One License #10-230.1)

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Pastor Janice Hawley

Worship Assistant Confirmation Student – Ben Heimsoth

Camera – Philip Paul

Traditional Music – Jack Hamill & Linda Tyahla

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.

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

- 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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