



Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ADVENT READING

L At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming. O Messiah,

A We watch for you

L We gather together to get ready for what? Only heaven knows. O Messiah,

A We watch for you

L We wait for the day when God will create a prevailing peace on the earth, and natural-born enemies turn into newborn friends. O Messiah,

A We watch for you

L We get ready for God to come close by laying our lives open to Jesus, asking him to sort through all our mixed motives. O Messiah,

A We watch for you

L Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of these candles, whose flames bring warmth to winter and fill this place with the glow of hope.

A Amen.

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

ELW 240, v. 1

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As we begin, all may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

L Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

A Blessed be God’s name forever. Amen.

L 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.

L God of new beginnings,

A we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

L People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

A Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Come Now, O Prince of Peace”

ELW 247

GREETING

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A And also with you.

KYRIE

pg. 147

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

A And also with you.

L Let us pray, Stir up your power,

A 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

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In 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. ³Many 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. ⁴He 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.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

L The Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:11-14

¹¹Besides 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; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L The Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Now The Heavens Start to Whisper”

1 Now the heavens start to whisper,
as the veil is growing thin.
Earth from slumber wakes to listen
to the stirring, faint within:
seed of promise, deeply planted,
child to spring from Jesse's stem!
Like the soil beneath the frostline,
hearts grow soft to welcome him.

L The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

A Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But 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. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

A Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Courtney Young

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

ELW 244

APOSTLES' CREED

L God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

A 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

L God, in your mercy,

A hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

A And also with you.

OFFERING

"Lost in the Night"

Jubilee Ringers

OFFERING PRAYER

L Generous God,

A you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the means of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

"People, Look East"

ELW 248

DISMISSAL

L Go in Peace. Christ is with you.

A Thanks be to God!

Welcome Guests & Visitors!

We hope you found the worship service meaningful. If you or someone you know would like information about Salem; program offerings, perhaps looking for a church home or some other need: Please contact the church office (651-457-6661) or Diane Hueller (651-451-0307)