

First Sunday of Advent

Emanuel-St. John Lutheran Church

December 1, 2024

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Light One Candle – Verse 1

Light one candle for Hope, One bright candle for Hope
He brings Hope to every heart, He comes, He comes!

Welcome and Announcements

The assembly stands.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Lord of heaven and earth, we bow our hearts before you, asking for forgiveness:

C: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,

He forgives all your guilt, he heals all your diseases....

As far as the East is from the West, so far does he remove our sins from us.

As tenderly as a father treats his children,

So the Lord treats those who stand in awe before him. (Psalm 103: 2-3, 12-13)

P: Father of All:

C: We confess that we are caught in sin and death.

We rebel against you in whatever we think, say, and do,

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

Even our righteous deeds are filthy rags.(Isaiah 64:6) **We refuse to let you be God.**

In Jesus Christ, your Son, judge us, forgive us, and free us.

P: For our sake God made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Cor 5:21) Because Jesus Christ conquered sin and death on the cross, your sin is forgiven.

Through baptism he has made us his own. In him we begin anew every day, living in the glorious freedom of the children of God. (Romans 8:21)

C: Amen.

Opening Hymn – Earth and All Stars! -- LBW 558

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Oh, victory! Loud shouting army! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Flowers and trees! Loud rustling dry leaves! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals! Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers! Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes! Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom! Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son! Loud praying members! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done marvelous things. I too will praise him with a new song!

The Apostolic 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.

Kyrie

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving power; create in us new hearts.

Hymn of Praise

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
On the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call.
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all.
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.

For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day -- 1st Sunday of Advent -- Dec 1, 2024

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken 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.

Scripture Readings and Psalm

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalm 25:1-9 -- 1st Sunday of Advent -- Dec 1, 2024

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you;

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O LORD,

and teach me your paths.

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.

Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,

for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

Gracious and upright is the LORD;

therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right

and teaches his way to the lowly.

All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel

Luke 21:5-36

*Spoken response after the announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

*Spoken response after the conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day – Lost in the Night – LBW 394

Lost in the night do the people yet languish
Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
Plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish.
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?

Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,
Giving no heed to our burden of sorrow? Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Sorrowing wand'ers, in darkness yet dwelling, Dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,
Death's dreaded darkness for-ever dispelling. Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!

Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming; Rivers of life through its deserts are streaming,
Bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming. Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one
being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;

**by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made
man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and
the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends:

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Give each other a sign of peace.

Offering

Thank you for your continued offerings. They are much appreciated.

**What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would ring a lamb;
If I were a wiseman I would do my part; yet what I can I give him –give him my heart.**

Offering Prayer

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.

The 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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever.
Amen.**

Benediction

May God direct your ways in peace,
make you abound in love for one another and for all,
and strengthen your hearts
until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn – Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying – LBW 31

Wake, awake, for night is flying The watchmen on the heights are crying;
Awake Jerusalem, at last. Midnight hears the welcome voices,
And as the thrilling cry rejoices: "Come forth you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake; Your lamps with gladness take!"
Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Zion hears the watchmen singing, And in her heart new joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom, For her Lord comes down all glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious. Her star is ris'n; her light is come.
Oh, come you Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna! We go until the halls we view Where you have bid us dine with you.

Now let all the heav'ns adore you, And saints and angels sing before you.
The harps and cymbals all unite. Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, dwelling with the choir immortal, We gather round your dazzling light.
No eye has seen no ear Has yet been trained to hear.
What joy is ours! Crescendos rise; your halls resound, Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

Sending

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Bulletin Announcements

First Sunday of Advent, December 1, 2024

THIS WEEK AT EMANUEL-ST. JOHN

SUNDAY, December 1st

8:45 a.m. Confirmation & Adult Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship

MONDAY, December 2nd

7:30 a.m. Men's Group

WEDNESDAY, December 4th

9:00 p.m. Sunrise Circle

THURSDAY, December 5th

8:00 a.m. Prayer Group

SUNDAY, December 8th

8:45 a.m. Confirmation & Adult Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship



WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Worship Attendant: Cory Waller
Greeters: Tim Kral Family
Acolyte: Abigail Lankford
Organist: Candace Booth
Lay Reader: Julie Wheelock
Children's Message: Cheryl Haden
Presiding: Rev. Ben Worley



Prayer concerns: Our prayers are with the following people with ongoing health concerns: Gary Ausborn, Ricky Dettmann, Kevin Frederick, Laurie Glasnapp, Aaron Grossehme, Julia Jacobs, Dale Scharn, Ethan Simonson, Marjorie Stewart and Gracia Willis...We remember also our homebound & nursing home members: Joleen Harmon, Mildred Purdie and Gracia Willis...We pray for peaceful resolutions to the wars in Israel/Palestine and Ukraine...We pray for the peace of Jerusalem...We pray for America: that God would guide us through troubled times, renewing our faith in Him and respect for one another...We pray for the safety and well-being of all law enforcement personnel and first responders...And for our Nation and the men and women serving in the armed forces at home and abroad especially Shiloh Meyer, Hannah Hildreth and Samantha Potts.

Members celebrating their birthday this week:

Dec. 1 Nash Riley
Dec. 2 Camie Clark, Deborah Sandquist
Dec. 3 Wes Jensen
Dec. 5 Matthew Hinrichs, Ava Taylor
Dec. 7 Randy Bartels

Please join us to celebrate Gracia's Art Sunday, Dec. 1st from 2-3 p.m. at the farm 1747 250th St. Rockwell City, IA 50579. Visit Gracia in her studio. Light snacks and refreshments will be served.— The family of Gracia Willis.

Students present at SS each Sunday during November were: Nursery-Pre-School-Austin Farley and Kora Waller;

Kindergarten & 1st Grade-Nash Riley and Kacen Waller; Grades 2, 3 & 4-Jack Bartels and Lily Bartels; Grades 5 & 6-No one. Class winners for best attendance in November was Nursery & Pre-school taught by Julie Wheelock and Super-Subs-Adlen and Sadie Wheelock and the Kindergarten and 1st Grade class taught by Susan Albright.

Thank you to everyone that helped with "Hanging of the Greens" on Monday and also all those who assisted with bringing everything down last Sunday after services. Thank you!

The Chautauqua Singers will present their annual Christmas Cantata Sunday, Dec 8 at 3:00 p.m. at the Unity Church, formerly Presbyterian Church, in Sac City.

The Lytton Museum and Library will be open next Sunday, Dec 8 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Museum will have refreshments and the Elf on the shelf. The Library will have games and crafts. Santa will be at the Lytton Legion Hall 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.!

Plan to join us for a lasagna supper and Christmas goodie/cookies exchange following the Children's Christmas program Sunday, December 15th—program begins at 5 p.m. Please bring a baker's dozen of your favorite cookies or goodies. They will be featured on the dessert table and then you will be able to make an assorted plate of your favorites to take home and enjoy. Free will offering will be accepted to help cover the cost of the meal.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Sunday, Dec. 1st: *First Sunday of Advent* Give thanks for God's boundless love and mercy, made tangible and sure through the birth of Jesus Christ, and for the free gift of salvation and hope that sets us free and leads us to eternal life in the kingdom of heaven.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Monday, Dec. 2nd: *World AIDS Day (Dec. 1)* If left untreated, HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) can cause AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome). In 2023, 39.9 million people were living with HIV and 630,000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses. Pray for individuals, families and communities impacted by HIV and AIDS, and for health care workers, researchers, clinics and faith communities working to treat, prevent and eradicate HIV and increase awareness of HIV and AIDS.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Tuesday, Dec. 3rd: *International Day of Persons with Disabilities* Pray for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who live with disabilities, that they will be welcomed, respected, valued and fully included in every aspect of the church and society. Give thanks for the wide-ranging work of ELCA Disability Ministries and the 16 social service organizations that make up the Lutheran Services in America Disability Network.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Wednesday, Dec. 4th: "Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts" (Colossians 3:14-15). Pray for the Spirit to shape our lives, that our words and actions might embody the gospel, the heart of our faith.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Thursday, Dec. 5th: Pray for those in Florida and the Gulf Coast who are grieving losses and recovering from hurricanes. Pray for assistance, resources and support to help them recover and rebuild, and thank God that our donations to Lutheran Disaster Response enable our church to respond to crises and care for those enduring trauma and devastation.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Friday, Dec. 6th: Give thanks for the ELCA Good Gifts catalogue, which helps us understand the needs and priorities of our neighbors and provides opportunities for us to respond with compassion and generosity in ways that promise great, immediate and long-term impact.

ELCA Prayer Ventures for Saturday, Dec. 7th: "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul" (Psalm 25:1). Lift up everything to God — your joys, concerns, questions, lamentations, confessions and praise.