



@SISTASinZION

Hello everyone,



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

This year we will brighten the lives of four people who have requested help from the Christmas Bureau. This has been a tough year for all of us and it will be good to help some people who already have difficult lives. They are all single people ages 61, 64, 52 and 39 and we have requests from them for things they would like. We need to give them a \$50 food gift card and a Christmas gift of at least \$50.00. We would like to be able to add some chocolates and a few smaller things for them, so our goal is to raise \$500.00 One of the people said on her request form "I wouldn't have a Christmas, I don't have family here so I really appreciate everything especially because of COVID. It will be a lonely time on my own so I really look forward to receiving your lovely gifts. Thank you so much for your kindness and support". This women is 61 years old and disabled. Another message to the sponsor says she is very appreciative of all you are doing for her and wants to thank you very much. She wishes you a very Merry Christmas and says to stay safe. Donations can be sent to the church by mail or dropped off in person by cheque, cash, or e-transferred to myself or Shelley (not to the church). We need to have the baskets to the Christmas Bureau by December 13th, so time is of the essence!

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A friend of mine sent me a bunch of “old people” jokes and I thought I would share one now and then. This one made me laugh out loud:

**As you get older, you've
got to stay positive.
For example, the other day
I fell down the stairs.
Instead of getting upset,
I just thought,
“Wow, that's the fastest
I've moved in years!”**



And now, let's get serious.

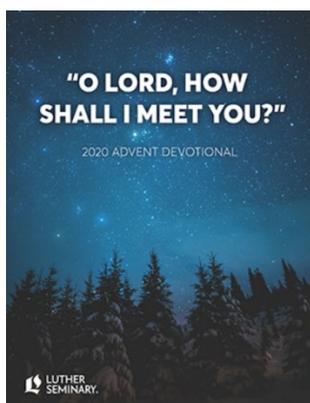
This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. Unfortunately we are unable to meet in person to begin our Advent journey, but Pastor Vida has collated several Advent devotionals for us to use and we will have an on-line service for you to watch at home.



ADVENT is full of rich traditions—lighting Advent candles, preparing Christmas hampers for the needy, singing Advent hymns to help us wait in hope.

This year, we will be practicing many of those traditions at home, alone or with our small household bubble.

Here are some resources to help you mark the season, and enter the mystery of Advent – “a God who comes, even in the darkest season, to bring us a new beginning.” (Gayle Boss).



We are mailing hard copies of Luther Seminary’s 2020 Advent devotional “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” to everyone on Gloria Dei’s address directory. It should arrive in your mailbox early next week. If somehow we missed you, you can go to their website and download a regular or large print edition - <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/advent-devotional/> (Luther Seminary is in St. Paul Minnesota)

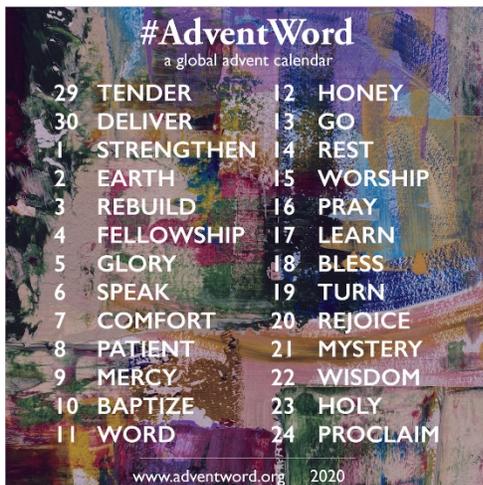
Advent Devotionals Online



Longing for Renewal: from the Creation story to the birth of Jesus. Lutherans Connect LC+ for the first time ever is offering their Advent project through Christmas and the Season of Epiphany. Daily reflections with music, images and art, help us all hope for a time of new creation.

If you would like to be on the Lutherans Connect email list, please write to lutheransconnect@gmail.com. You can receive the devotionals by email daily that way. Otherwise, they will be posted on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/lutherans.connect/> and on Twitter.

For a Canadian connection, you may want to check out the Advent Reflections prepared by *On Eagle's Wings* – an ecumenical ministry serving individuals and groups living in remote northern communities. The contributing writers draw on their experiences of life and ministry in the North as they invite us into Advent hope. You can learn more about their ministry and download their devotional on their website <https://www.oneagleswingsnorth.com>



#AdventWord For those of you who enjoy building community through social media then #Adventword is for you. How it works: Virginia Theological Seminary posts meditations and images on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube. As people reflect on the meditations can then post their own responses of prayer, poems and/or images on their social media accounts tagging them with #AdventWord. In the

process a prayer-filled Advent community is formed online. Are you curious to learn more? Visit <https://adventword.org/en/how-i-advent-word/> or on FaceBook - <https://www.facebook.com/AdventWordOrg>

You can also sign up for the daily meditations by email here:
<https://adventword.org/en/sign-up-adventword/>

Prepare Your Heart for Christmas - Advent Prayers

Rev. Bruce Ehlert (ELCIC) pairs up an Advent prayer from ancient and modern sources with an image for each day of Advent. You can subscribe here:
pbprayer@telus.net

Advent Worship and Music

On December 3 at 7PM you can join this online Taizé service hosted by the BC Synod and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver by clicking on this link
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrCiExDeATA3UiaW6ZgYB6w>

*Join us
online for ...* **An Advent Taizé Service**
Prayer, Songs and Contemplation

*Thursday,
December 3rd, 2020
7:00PM* *Good Shepherd Lutheran
Church Coquitlam
YouTube Channel*

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrCiExDeATA3UiaW6ZgYB6w>

Hosted by ELCIC BC Synod and the RC Archdiocese of Vancouver

The Incarnation: For the Healing of the World - December 11 6PM PST

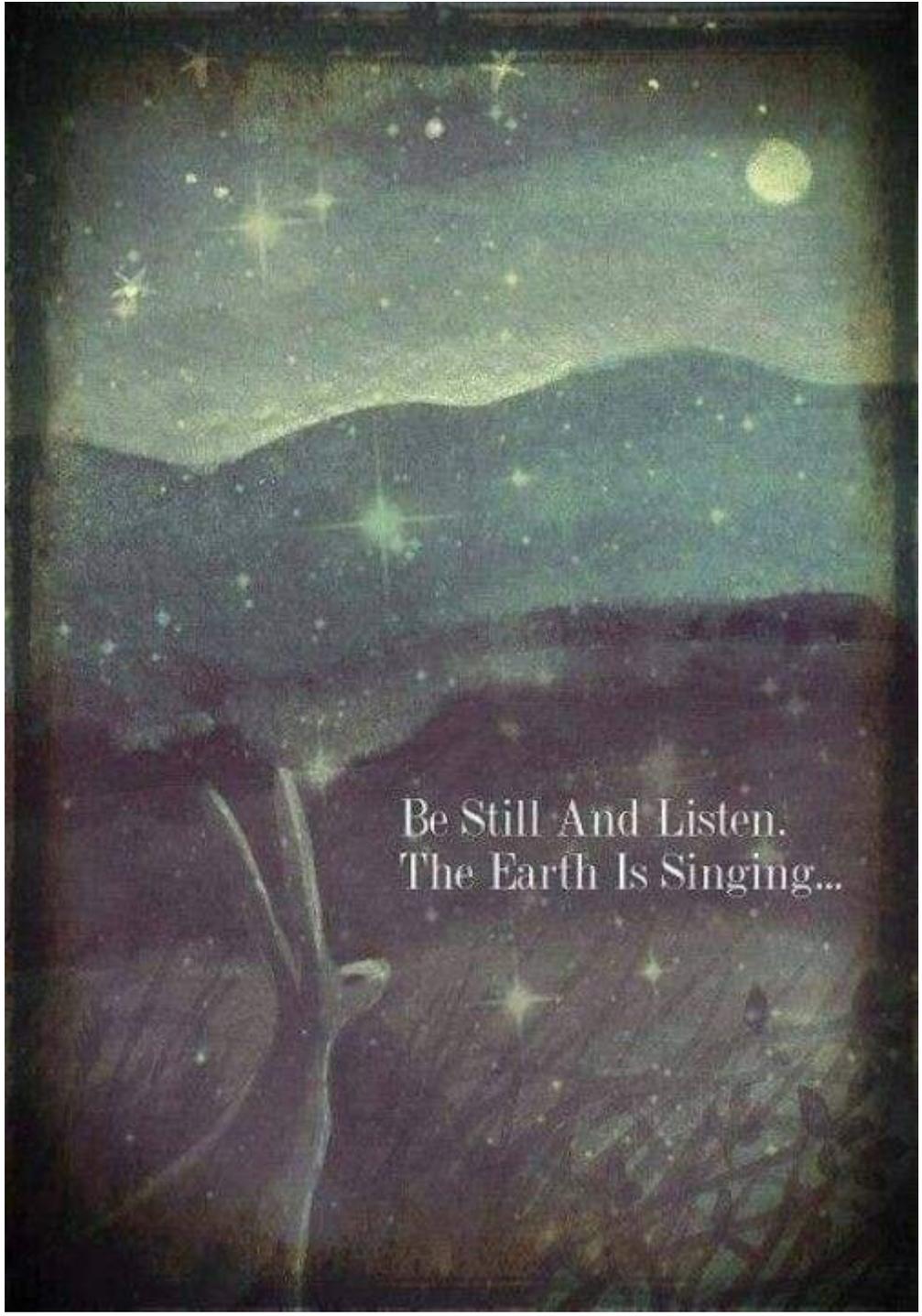


Enjoy an online concert by the National Lutheran Choir (USA) on Dec. 11 6PM PST, as they present through music and art how various places and cultures of the world understand and receive the Christ child as their own. To hear the concert go to www.nlca.com on the day and time of the event.

Hope to see you all in person soon, but in the meantime keep in touch with each other, perhaps you can enjoy these Advent resources together by phone or Facetime –

Peace,

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Be Still And Listen.
The Earth Is Singing...