

Date: 11/29/25 Season: ADVENT 1 (BLUE)

PASTOR <u>Rev. Orin W. Cummings, PhD</u>	ASSISTING <u>Lucy Stillwell</u>
LECTOR <u>Mary Keidle</u>	ORGANIST <u>Marilyn Boston</u>
A/V <u>Drew Bowman</u>	DISTRIBUTION MINISTER <u>Lucy Stillwell</u>
HEALING MINISTER <u>Jean Bardy</u>	

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls us together as the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In celebration of our baptism, we worship
In the name of God: Father, **✚** Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,
we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.
Amen.

HEALING LITURGY

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing—with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

Let us pray:

O God, in the Lord Jesus, you healed, and you gave hope. Grant your healing grace to all who are sick, injured, or disabled, that they may be made whole.

O Lord of life hear our prayer.

Mend broken relationships through the power of your Spirit, especially between Russia and Ukraine, Israelis and Palestinians, and in places like Syria, Sudan, Myanmar, and Haiti. Restore those in emotional distress to soundness of mind and serenity of spirit.

O Lord of life hear our prayer.

Restore to wholeness, O Triune God, whatever is amiss in our lives, and in this nation.

O Lord of life hear our prayer.

Strengthen our trust in you so that we might not hesitate to bring our concerns to you, O Lord of life.

Amen.

LAYING ON HANDS

Sisters and brothers, come as you are able and receive laying on of hands and anointing. You may kneel or stand at the Altar Rail. Those who are unable to come to the Altar Rail, let a Shepherd know and we will come to you.

ABSOLUTION

God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.

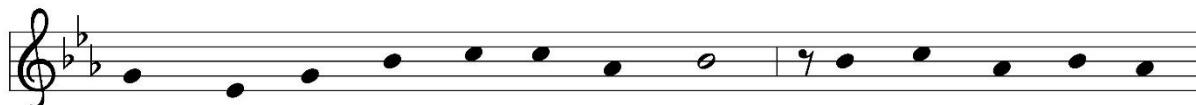
✠ You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW 245

Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
from all as - assaults of our dread foe.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.
Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDÉRUM, plainsong mode IV
Text © 1940 Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, 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.

LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH Advent Air

It's at tis time, it's in this place, that we await His
presence, we a-wait His presence, His presence is here now,
1. We're waiting for His Hope

WORD

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

THE FIRST READING FROM 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!

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING FROM ROMANS 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

**The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 24th Chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

[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. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But 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. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Ready Hearts

Pastor Orin Cummings

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 949

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er lamps
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain



Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith with 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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

**God of the people, we come seeking wisdom and instruction. Uphold and strengthen lay leaders, teachers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Teach us your ways and lead us in your paths. God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

**God of the earth, we seek your goodness in the grandeur of creation. Empower us to care for forests and oceans, as we see you in the world around us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

**God of the nations, grant wisdom to leaders, judges, and mediators. Cast out words of hate and transform them into words for building up community. Remake implements of war to sow peace, especially in Eastern Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Haiti. God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

**God of healing, bring comfort and strength. We pray for our kindred and companions who are ill or despairing especially Jessica Smith, Jim Shoelpple, Jenny Jackson, Sandy Skoglund-Young, Juanita Steinbaugh, Christine Kennedy, Gabe Derr, Jacob Russell-Rivera, Andrew Langr, Ray Hollingstad, Mark Krueger, Bob White, Tommy Brewer, and Beverly Carlson. Surround all with care and consolation. God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

**God of new possibilities, when addiction wounds, jealousy tears down, and relationships fray, show us how to journey with one another. Nurture therapists, counselors, and sponsors in their care for others, and strengthen Messiah as a healing community. God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

**God of all time, build up our lives that we would reflect your grace. At the last, bring us with all the saints, especially Paul Novak and Carl Spaethe, to your holy city where peace and goodness make a home. God of grace,
hear our prayer.**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ACS 929

Blessed Is the One



Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name, who comes
in the name of the Lord. Bless-ed is the one who comes
in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord.

Text: Psalm 118:26
Music: BLESSED IS THE ONE, Nathan Hauge, b. 1977
Music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

ELW 469

By Your Hand You Feed Your People



1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.



For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis-dom sat - is - fy our deep-est needs.
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:



Christ's own bod-y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow-ing, life out - poured,



giv-en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re-deemed, re - stored.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us *in mission to the world.*

BLESSING

May God who comes among us,
Father, **+** Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

Amen.

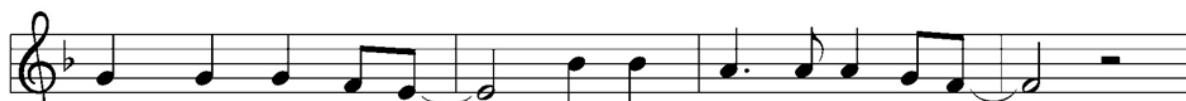
SENDING HYMN

ELW 439

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there,
3 No more dy - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there,
no more dy - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there,
no more dy - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
soon and ver - y soon

The musical score consists of three staves of music in G clef, common time, and a key signature of one flat. The first staff is labeled '1, 2, 3' in a box at the top right. The lyrics 'Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!' are written below the notes. The second staff is labeled 'Coda after stanza 4' in a box at the top left. The lyrics 'Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah' are written below the notes. The third staff continues the melody with the lyrics 'jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah'.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, we:
Welcome all to worship;
Make disciples;
Hunger for ministry;
Nurture youth;
Gather resources for growing ministries;
Offer healing and care to all in need.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.
Thanks be to God.

OFFERING

(Please place gifts in the plates as you leave)

POSTLUDE