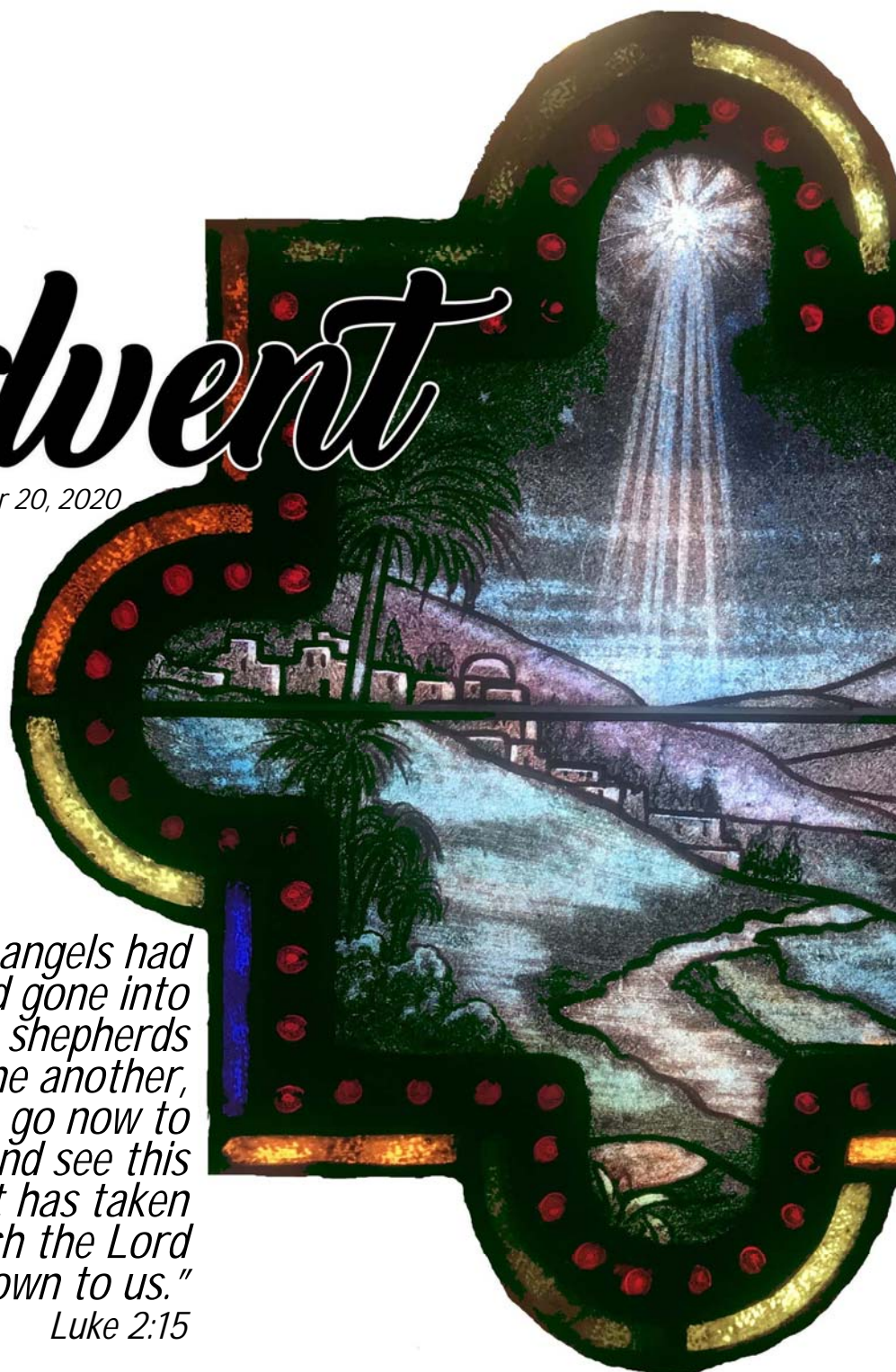


Advent

December 20, 2020

*When the angels had
left them and gone into
heaven, the shepherds
said to one another,
"Let us go now to
Bethlehem and see this
thing that has taken
place, which the Lord
has made known to us."
Luke 2:15*



4th Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2020

Order of Service

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

PRELUDE

During this Advent season, we would like to bring the celebration of the season into your homes with our preludes. Please join us and play your bells during our prelude before the worship service begins. Please ring your bells on the "glorias".

THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

P God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder our love of you, that when Christ comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever more. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C Amen.

P Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Loving and forgiving God,

C we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

P People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ☩ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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-joice! Re-joice!
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.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>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.
<i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>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.
<i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>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.
<i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>8 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
<i>Refrain</i></p> |

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent, as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)

Dec. 19: O Branch of Jesse (4)

Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 22: O King of nations (7)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (8)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Advent Four:

P We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent stands for the coming of our Lord. The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall be named Emmanuel (God Is With Us). *Isaiah 7:14*

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

KYRIE

Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!

Hail in the time ap - point - ed his reign on earth be - gun!

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,

to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.

HYMN OF PRAISE

The musical score for 'Hymn of Praise' is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and common time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

Lift up your heads, you might - y gates, be - hold, the
Fling wide the por - tals of your heart, make it a
So, come, my Sov - 'reign, en - ter in, let new and

King of Glo - ry waits; the King of Kings is
tem - ple set a - part from earth - ly use for
no - bler life be - gin, the Ho - ly Spir - it

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
guide us on, un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: 2ND SAMUEL 7:1-11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Spoken responsively

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**
³"I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
⁴**I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations."**
¹⁹You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people:

“I have set the crown upon a warrior and have exalted one chosen out of the people.

²⁰**I have found David my servant;
with my holy oil have I anointed him.**

²¹My hand will hold him fast
and my arm will make him strong.

²²**No enemy shall deceive him,
nor shall the wicked bring him down.**

²³I will crush his foes before him
and strike down those who hate him.

²⁴**My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him,
and he shall be victorious through my name.**

²⁵I will set his hand on the sea,
and his right hand on the rivers.

²⁶**He will say to me, ‘You are my father,
my God, and the rock of my salvation.’**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 16:25-27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-38

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Andrew Patty

HYMN OF THE DAY

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW HYMN 264

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

MAGNIFICAT

P In the words of Mary, let us proclaim our joy in the coming of Christ.

C My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

A Gracious God, all generations call you blessed. In this holy season we pray for our neighbors of other denominations and faiths. Inspire the faith of their people. Cultivate understanding among us and strengthen us in love and service to our community. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition. Bless the work of advocates, community organizers, and food pantries. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence especially Lucille Brill, Eleanor Jewell, Don Longren, and Duane Pomeroy. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Teaching God, you lead us and our sister congregations in the way we should go. Give your church the mercy to open their doors and hearts to all. We especially pray for Hope Lutheran in St. Charles, Christ & Trinity Lutheran in Sedalia, Our Savior Lutheran in Salem, Missouri, and St. John Lutheran in Salina, Kansas. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Life-giving God, you bless us with many joys. Today we pray for Troy Pomeroy and Jeff Longren as they celebrate their birthdays, and Tresa Johnson and Debbie Pomeroy as they remember their baptisms. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Eternal God, you are faithful to the promises you made to our forebears. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who organized, planned, dreamed, encouraged, and reached out as they served you. We give thanks for the bold leadership of female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Let us greet one another with God's peace.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY



And all who trust him and obey
will find when Jesus comes again
that they are heirs to that bright place,
God's realm of glory, their domain!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

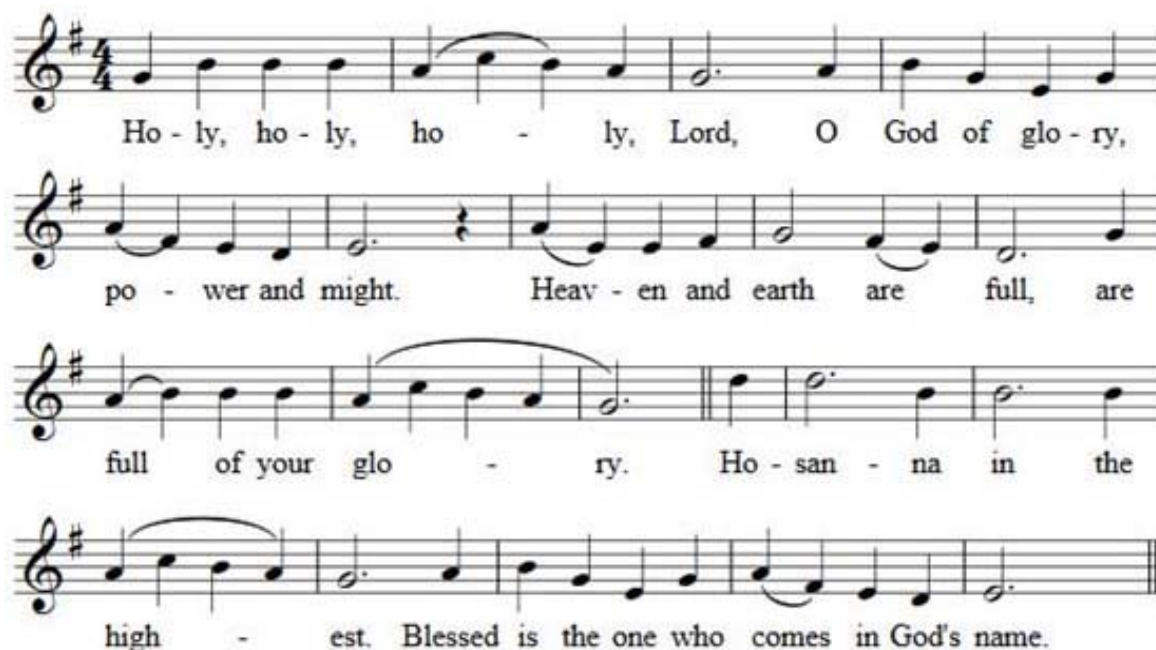
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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, say-
ing: 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.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of
grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We
look with hope for his coming. All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Dec. 204th Sunday of Advent
 Online Worship with Holy Communion.....10:30 AM
 Mon., Dec. 21January 2021 Trinity Tidings deadline
 Tues., Dec. 22.....Advent Devotional on Facebook
 Thurs., Dec. 24.....Christmas Eve Worship Online 5:00 PM
 Sunday, Dec. 27..... Online Worship with Holy Communion.....10:30 AM

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS						
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion
Nov. 22	\$1,570.00	\$715.00	\$2,285.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$507.00	0
Nov. 29	\$4,945.00	\$160.00	\$5,105.00	-\$2,792.00	\$2,313.00	0
Dec. 6	\$3,080.00	\$50.00	\$3,130.00	-\$2,792.00	\$338.00	0
Dec. 13	\$1,345.00	\$330.00	\$1,675.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,117.00	0
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead	
		Oct 2020	\$5,920.00	-\$11,832.60	-\$5,912.60	
		Jan. - Oct	\$96,843.80	-\$102,467.04	-\$5,623.24	



The mission of
**Trinity Evangelical
 Lutheran Church**
 is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

Together in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday

Noon to 5:00 PM Wednesday

Telephone: (785) 233-0767

Congregation Council

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President Diane Bottorff _____	271-7131	Bob Horton _____	640-5345
Vice President Mary Heald _____	221-2790	Curt Lewis _____	286-2728
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Treasurer Bob Kobbeman _____	478-0381	Ted Murphy _____	817-0372