

Advent

December 6, 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*



2nd Sunday in Advent

December 6, 2020

Advent Setting

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

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. Ring your bells when we hear "Merry, merry, merry Christmas."

CAROL OF THE BELLS

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,

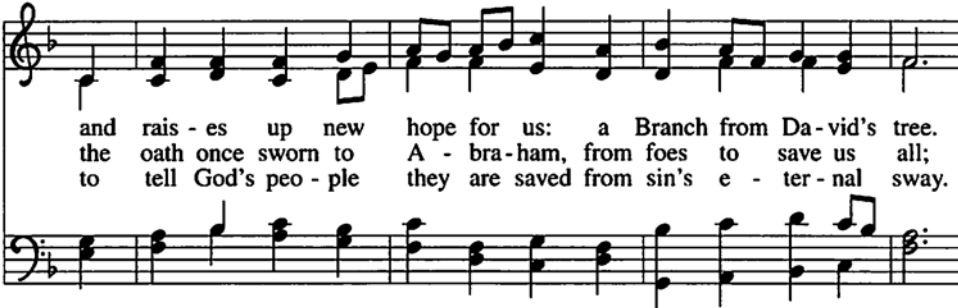
C we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. 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 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Advent Two:

P We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent stands for the coming of our Lord. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. (Isaiah 11:6)

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

The musical score for the Kyrie consists of four systems, each with a vocal melody line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are as follows:

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 is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines, which end with a double bar line. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with mostly quarter notes and some chords.

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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 40:1-11

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Spoken responsively

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD;
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity of your people
and blotted out all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to
you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING: 2ND PETER 3:8-15A

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

GOSPEL: MARK 1:1-8

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,'"

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Andrew Patty

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

ELW HYMN 249

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

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, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

A Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Loving God, you set the stars in the sky and breathe life into the earth. Renew the face of creation where it is in need of your healing touch. Mend the wounds of environmental damage and restore balance to ecosystems so that all creation can declare your praise. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick, especially Lucille Brill, Don Longren, and Duane Pomeroy, or struggling with depression, and gather all people in your healing embrace. 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 all of your church the mercy to open their doors and hearts to all. We especially pray for Immanuel Lutheran in Salina, Kansas, Peace Lutheran in Salisbury, Missouri, and for the seminary students and candidates of the Central States Synod. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A Life-giving God, you bless us with many joys. Today we pray for Julie Reeves, Peggy Buchholz, Walt Laughlin, Junior Utech, and Roy O'Neil as they remember their baptisms. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Eternal God, we give thanks for the saints who have prepared your way in the wilderness and taught us to continue their faithful work. Make their generous lives an example for all. 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



Sing to the mighty Father God,
whose love enshrines his majesty;
there is no darkness where he reigns
and light above all light is he.

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.

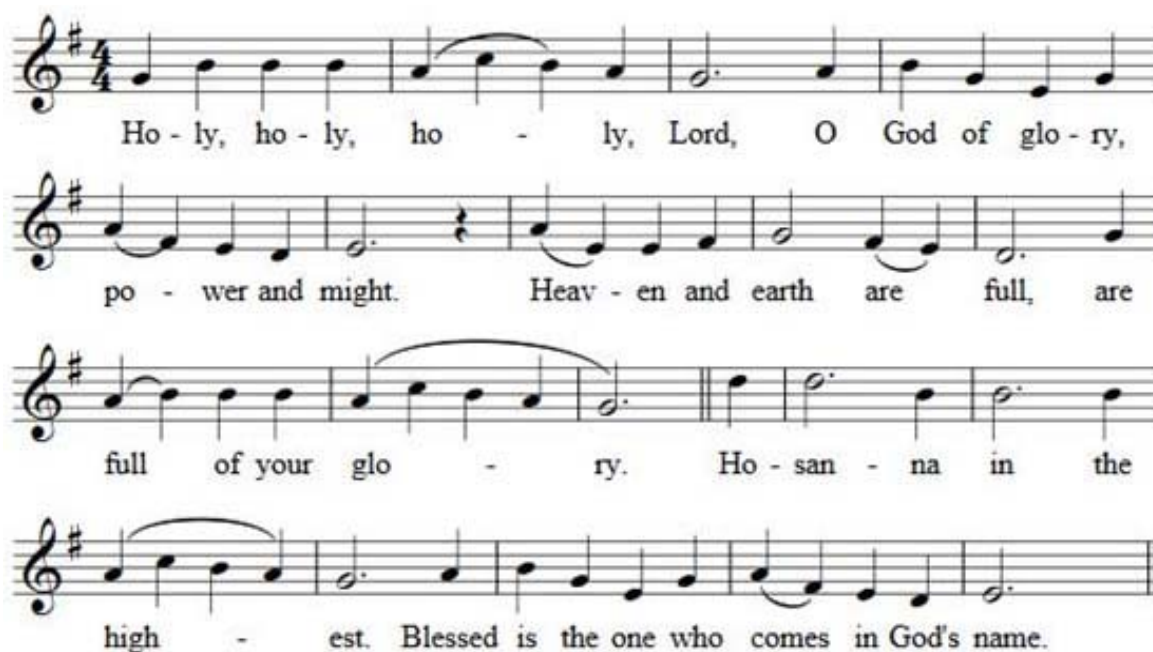
P Lift up your hearts.

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. 6 2nd Sunday of Advent.....
 Online Worship with Holy Communion.....10:30 AM
 Mon., Dec. 7 Church Council Meeting on Zoom 6:00 PM
 Tues., Dec. 8.....Advent Devotional on Facebook
 W&M Meeting on Zoom 5:00 PM
 Wed., Dec. 9 Historic Old Town Meeting on Zoom 6:30 PM
 Thurs., Dec. 10.....Singing the Unsung on Zoom 6:30 PM
 Sunday, Dec. 13 3rd Sunday of Advent
 St. Lucia Day
 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. 8	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,192.00	0
Nov. 15	\$1,640.00	\$0.00	\$1,640.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,152.00	0
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
			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 money in the November 29th “other” column is designated for Doorstep’s food pantry to help our neighbors in need during this holiday season. This figure also includes some poinsettias that will be delivered to shut-ins and decorate our sanctuary.



2020 Doorstep Christmas **Adoption Wish List**



As with everything else in this year of COVID, Doorstep's Christmas adoption will not be a "Store" this year.

We are still adopting 260 Households from the Christmas Bureau which includes 800+ individuals for Christmas, and **we greatly need your help with a few select donations!**

This year we are all trying to work together as a community and provide for Christmas. The Christmas Bureau and adopting agencies have agreed to provide each household at least a food order and \$15 Visa gift card (no activation fee) for each household member.



This year each household will receive from Doorstep:

- ♦ Christmas Food Order
- ♦ \$15 Visa gift card for each household member listed on their intake
- ♦ Blanket
- ♦ Health Kit



We will not have the volunteer opportunities we have had in the past. In an effort to be safe, we are keeping our circle of volunteers small, and using our regular volunteers to help with Christmas Adoption this year.

How You Can Help...

This year we only need a few things, but we need larger numbers of each.

Money - Our Biggest Need -

To purchase the food, gift cards for 800+ people, and other items we don't receive in donations.

Blankets - Twin (40), Full/Queen & King sized (165)

Towel Sets - Bath & Hand (130 each)

Health Kit Items - Full Size

**Shampoo & Conditioner (200 each),
Toothpaste (75), Deodorant (250)
& Combs (200)**

**Please Bring Donations to Doorstep at 10th & Buchanan,
Mon - Fri from 9am - 2pm (South Door) By Monday, Dec 7th.**

**Send your monetary donation to Doorstep, 1119 SW 10th Avenue,
Topeka, Ks 66604 or visit www.DoorstepTopeka.org - Donate.**



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

Pr. Andrew C. Patty_____423-748-9922			
President Diane Bottorff_____	271-7131	Bob Horton_____	640-5345
Vice President Mary Heald_____	221-2790	Curt Lewis_____	286-2728
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