

The Reading: Isaiah 61:1-11

¹The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor. ⁴They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. ⁵Strangers will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. ⁶And you will be called priests of the Lord, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast. ⁷Instead of your shame you will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace you will rejoice in your inheritance. And so you will inherit a double portion in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours. ⁸“For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In my faithfulness I will reward my people and make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants will be known among the nations and their offspring among the peoples. All who see them will acknowledge that they are a people the Lord has blessed.” ¹⁰I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

P: This is the Word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

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Hymn of the Day & Offering: *Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you'd like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children's coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.*

“I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light”

Vs 1: I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Vs 2: I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]

Vs 3: I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. [Refrain]

Offertory Response: *“Give Thanks” (ushers bring offerings forward)*

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.

Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

Offertory Prayer: L: Let us pray,

C: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for gifts that sustain our lives every day. We offer back what you have first given us. Use our time, talents, and treasures to serve your mission in our world. Amen.

Nicene Creed: *(please stand as you are able)*

We believe in one 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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 in glory 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence. *A brief silence.* God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and other disasters. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who leads, this world cries out for true justice. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. We pray especially for Keith Brown, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Shawn Fredrixon, Marc Bode, Harlan Reese, Beth Carlson, Gage Miller, Alex Stehr, Maria Starr Quiggle, Perry Fitzgerald, Tanya Bakken, Lorraine Hinsch, Jeff Ferkinhoff, Henry Strauss, Diane Krenke, Steve Pabst, Rollie Quade, and Chase Hanson. Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another, and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, & receive these prayers & the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: P: The peace of Christ be with you always, **C: And also with you.**

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 Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

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

Meal and Hymns: *(you may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“Of The Fathers Love Begotten” #295

Vs 1: Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he, of the things that are, that have been, & that future years shall see, evermore & evermore!

Vs 2: O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; & the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore & evermore!

Vs 3: This is he whom seers in old time changed of with one accord, whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word; now he shines, the long expected; let creation praise its Lord, evermore & evermore!

Vs 4: Let the heights of heav'n, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing; pow'rs, dominions, bow before him & extol our God & King; let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring, evermore & evermore!

Vs 5: Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be: honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory evermore and evermore! Amen.

“Create In Me A Clean Heart”

Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, oh Lord, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me;
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation and renew a right spirit within me.

“You Are My All In All”

Vs. 1: You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek. You are my all in all
Seeking You as a precious jew’l, Lord, to give up I’d be a fool. You are my all in all

Chorus: Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name! Jesus Lamb of God, worthy is Your name

Vs. 2: Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, Rising again I bless your name; You are my all in all
When I fall down, you pick me up; When I am dry, You fill my cup; You are my all in all. [Chorus]

Communion Prayer: *(Please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray,

C: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life & for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us and for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy and for sending us to serve the world in your name. Amen.

Blessing: P: May God, our Lord of endings and beginnings, may God, our Lord of the darkness and the light, may God, our hope for all our journeys, + bless and keep you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: “Soon & Very Soon” #439

Vs 1: Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!
Vs 2: No more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!
Vs 3: No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!
Vs 4: Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King. 3X Hallelujah, hallelujah, we’re goin’ to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Dismissal: P: Go in peace, share your gifts!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude



St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
9:30AM • December 15, 2024

Prelude: *“On a Still and Starry Night” solo by Eve Stone*

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: May 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.

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.* God of mercy,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority over your power and authority. When we grow fearful, we cling to false comforts.

P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P: God in our midst,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

P: Christ the Lord, our Savior, is incarnate among us. In Christ we have forgiveness of sin, mercy, and new life. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Jesus Christ, and be empowered to live new each day. **C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” vs 5, 6, refrain #257

Vs 5: O come, O Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Vs 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. (refrain)

Advent Reflection: *read by Henry Luhman (you may be seated)*

We have lit the first two candles, one for hope and one for peace. Today we light the third candle, the candle of joy. This should be the easy one, because joy is all around us—in the children, the lights, the music, the gathering together. But how often do we let our preparations or our memories push joy aside? Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us, but joy is also a choice, an attitude. Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised. So today we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it in us. All we need to do is give it care and offer it to share.

Advent Prayer: *read by Henry Luhman*

Joy - Let us pray. Dear God, in the height of our advent walk, grant us the courage to experience joy. Joy in the face of apathy, joy in the face of sorrow, joy in the face of uncertainty. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles & Hymn: “Light one candle to watch for Messiah” vs 3 #240

Vs 3: Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

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Sunday Worship: 9:30AM • Wednesday Worship 6:45PM

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