



Sunday, November 29, 2020
First Sunday of Advent
8:00am Worship

First Lutheran Church

1212 Minneapolis Avenue
Gladstone, MI 49837
906-428-4565

www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org

Our Mission Statement...

First Lutheran Church is God's people inviting, involving, equipping and empowering to serve, that all may know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.



SUNDAY, November 29 – First Sunday of Advent

8:00am – OnlineWorship

Altar Guild

Jan Gustafson, Amber Soderman

Reader

Chris Mineau

GATHERING

Congregational responses are in **BOLD** print.

**Please STAND as you are comfortable



PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We invite you to join us in communion from home: Light a candle to represent the Light of Christ. Prepare for your family bread and wine or juice to represent Christ with us. Prepackaged communion cups are available at the church, please call to schedule a pick up time.
 - Just a friendly reminder that this is the time we are asking you to submit an estimate of giving for 2021. If you have not yet done so, please fill out an estimate card and turn it in to the office. Thanks and Blessings.
 - Do you know a member that is unable to receive worship services through the internet? We have **worship tablets** for this purpose. Please contact the church office for information.
 - We are collecting new mittens, hats and scarves for the mitten tree again this year (socks are ok too!). Items collected will be donated to the Salvation Army.
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****CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.

****GATHERING HYMN***"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" v. 1, 2*

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,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 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.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
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****GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

** LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" v. 1



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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WORD

THE READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

- ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:1-7

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

****GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-27, 32-37**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

²⁴But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,

²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great
power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his
elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of
heaven.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in
heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you
do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a
journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with
his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the
watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the
master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at
cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes
suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake." The Gospel
of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Remember Your People”

Pastor Dennis Meyette

****HYMN OF THE DAY**

“My Lord, What a Morning”

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

****APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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. Amen

****PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P: God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly
to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our
hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the
needs of the world as you draw near. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for this planet in need of restoration: for devastated
habitats, polluted waters, thawing ice, blazing fires, swelling
floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and
our relationship to it. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for all people who care for others in our community and
around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to
respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome
for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer.
Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses. Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work. 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.

MEAL

OFFERING OF MUSIC AND GIFTS

Thank you to those giving through our website, using the Give+ App, and mailing in or dropping off your offering.

At this time, please prepare to participate in communion.

**OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray together...

C: 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.

Amen.

****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.

****THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**** THE 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.

****INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here.
Come, eat and drink.

****PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Let us pray together...

**C: 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. 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.

**SENDING SONG

"Fling Wide the Door" v. 1, 4



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

****DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Wednesday, December 2

6:30pm – Zoom Advent Experience

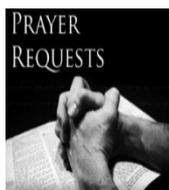
NEXT SUNDAY – December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent

Readings will be Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
Isaiah 40:1-11; Mark 1:1-8

8:00am – Online Worship

HOSPITAL VISITS: Due to short hospital stays and privacy laws, we often don't know when members are hospitalized. If you or a loved one is in the hospital for a procedure or treatment, please notify the church office (428-4565) so that we may offer a prayer.



Do you have a prayer request? *Please let us know.*

Prayer requests are lifted up each Sunday during the "Prayers of the People." Prayer Ministry sheets are on the prayer board located by the office door. **The office will contact you monthly to get updates on your requests.**

Give+ Text We are now able to text our offering! First Lutheran's *Give+ Text* number is: **844-940-1434**. Just text the amount you would like to give and press send. The first time you use *Give+ Text*, you will be sent a link to register, after that, give anytime by texting the amount you wish to give. If you have questions, please contact the church office at 428-4565.

Advent Watch, Wait, and Listening

Advent has become a somewhat lost season in the church. We used to gather for worship to wait and keep watch for the Lord's return. But today and for many years now, people have been too busy and stressed with gift buying, company parties, and attending or having parties for/with family and friends, some are grieving, sad, and depressed about a loss of a job, loved one, or about finances to participate in Advent activities. While we may say "Merry Christmas" more often than not, there is not much to be merry about. Then... there is the COVID19 Virus of this year which has and will change everything we do this holiday season.

I'm thinking we need to pivot forward and reinstate Advent this year as Lutheran Christians. Given the continuing virus infections, let's pivot forward and gather via ZOOM for three Wednesday's in December to practice our Watch, Wait, and Listen for the coming of Christ. We will gather to hear God's Word proclaimed, watch, wait, and listen in an interactive 30-40 minutes of Holy Spirit conversation. I believe God is calling us to view this disruptive time of our lives as a way to prepare for the coming Christ. The holiday season is always disruptive and combined with our current realities of a virus this is a great opportunity to Watch, Wait, and Listen for the coming Christ.

You're invited to join in on the Wednesdays of December 2, 9 and 16 @ 6:30pm via ZOOM, Pr. Dennis will facilitate an interactive Advent experience and send an email ZOOM link for us to gather as we Watch, Wait, and Listen for Christ.

PRAYER LIST

Please be in prayer for the following people this week:

Sandy	Rebecca	Shirley	Evelyn
Joyce	Lauren	Vickie	Kaden
Nick	Richard	Bryan	Dave
James	Jeremy	Judy	Kristen
Jennifer	Sandy	Jerry	Becky
Doug	Ryan	Chad	John & Lois
Mary	Sharon	Connie	Ilene
Julie	Mark	Ron	Chuck
Mary	Katherine	Chad	Danny
Grace & Ron	Heidi	Joey	Kelly
Ken	Tabitha	Alex	Tom
Sydney	Denise	Linda	Mike
Norma	Shelby	Dotti	Tammy
Diane	Sandy	Vi	Dave
Mary	Jamie	Trisha & Family	Stacey & Family
Paul & Carole	Cheryl & Family		

Also continue to be in prayer for those serving our country:

Brian	Bryan	Cassie	Christopher
Jesse	Jacob	Jason	Charlie
Brad	Danielle	Jamie	

MINISTRY STAFF:

Rev. Dennis Meyette, Administrative Interim Pastor
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Musician: Paul Rajala

Christian Ed Coordinator:

Custodian: Warren Eichner

****www.firstlutheran-gladstone.org***

OR check us out on Facebook

****www.facebook.com/pages/First-Lutheran-Church-ELCA-Gladstone-MI/***

