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Our vision for ministry ...

"God calls us to reach out and to grow in Christ's love"



First
Sunday of Advent

1 Advent

Announcements and Parish Concerns

Let all who await his coming prepare the way of the Lord!
We are here to prepare a place in our hearts for Jesus' birth!

Let's join in praising our Lord Jesus!

ELW (red book) **257** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

**1O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.** Refrain

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

**2O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way.** Refrain

**3O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.** Refrain

**4O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.** Refrain

**5O 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.** Refrain

**6O 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

**7O 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.** Refrain

**⁸O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.** Refrain

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-707554.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.
And also with you.

Candlelighting Prayer

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Candlelighting

ELW (red book) **240** "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

**¹Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.**

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray together: **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.**

First Lesson: Isaiah 64: 1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as 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! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From 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. You 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. We 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. There 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. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people. nrsv

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. nrsv

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

Response: Tune: ELW **264** "Prepare the Royal Highway"

**Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley, a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's Word!**

Gospel Lesson: The Good News of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

The Good News according to St. Mark, the 13th Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Mark 13: 24-37 [Jesus said:] "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then 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. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the

time will come. It 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. Therefore, 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.” nrsv

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon; Pastor Dan Clayborne

Hymn ELW (red book) **487** “What Feast of Love”

**¹ What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!**

**² What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!**

**³ What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!**

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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. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

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

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

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God,
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.

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, hand accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Preface to Communion

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. 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 choir of angels, with all the faithful of every time and every place, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus (Tune: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing LBW 60)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of hosts, by all adored!
Heav'n and earth cannot contain all the glory of Your name!
Hail Hosanna, God most high! Blest is Christ who soon draws nigh
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing;
Hail, Hosanna! Praises due be forever, Lord, to You!**

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.

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 the Table

Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here. Come, eat and drink. **Amen!**

Pastoral blessing for children and those not receiving communion.

Sharing of Holy Communion

**Body of Christ, given for you.
Blood of Christ, shed for you.**

Post-Communion Blessing

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

Post-Communion Prayer

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.**

Benediction: (✠ Signifies the sign of the cross, a reminder of our Baptism)

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. **Amen.**

Hymn ELW (red book) **439** "Soon and Very Soon"

**¹Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

**²No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

**³No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

**⁴Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

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Sending Forth to Serve

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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