



“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.”

Mark 13:24-25

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

11:00 AM

Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist’s plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

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*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

On the center aisle of each pew is a folder known as the Friendship Register. Please sign the register and check if you are communing today. Be sure to review the sheet to identify visitors. Please hand the completed pages from the register to an usher during the singing of the Hymn of the Day.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Five

Our parament colors are blue, suggesting hope.

T GATHERING T

ACCLAMATION

Timothy Olsen

Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.
(Psalm 85:7)

OPENING VOLUNTARY Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme Johann Gottfried Walther

Addy Knepp, Music Intern

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

In the name of the Father,
and of the T Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.

GATHERING HYMN 244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG

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

KYRIE



In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, com - fort and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

We sit.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

PRAYER

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

HYMN 240 Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (*stanza 1 only*)

TIF IN VELDELE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: **Amen.**

WELCOME

T W O R D T

FIRST READING 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.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

Refrain (Sung once by the choir, repeated by the choir and assembly)

Re - store us, O God of hosts; let your face
shine up - on us, and we shall be saved.

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary*
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(Verses sung by the Choir)

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

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

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

⁴O 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.

⁶You 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. **R**

¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,
the one you have made so strong for yourself.

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. **R**

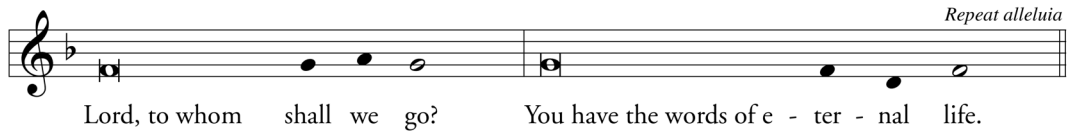
SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Mark 13:24-37

The holy gospel according to Mark. *The assembly responds:* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.”

The gospel of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Rev. Paul A. Wollner

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY 546 To Be Your Presence

ENGELBERG

We sit.

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN LEADER AND STEPHEN MINISTER

We stand.

NICENE CREED

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

Each portion of the prayers conclude:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another. Please honor those who prefer not to physically share the peace.

We sit.

T MEAL T

OFFERING

We pass the offering plates in recognition that we are all invited to participate in sharing the gifts of abundance with what God has first given us. We recognize that many share their financial gifts online or at different frequencies; passing the plates connects us in our giving, no matter how we share. Please pass the plate down the pew and then onto the next row.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Thou Shalt Know Him

text: anonymous
music: Mark Sirett

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
Not by any din of drums,
Nor his manners, nor his airs,
Nor by anything he wears.
Thou shalt know him when comes,
Not by his crown or by his gown,
But his coming known shall be,
By the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.
Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

We stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and



take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the



joy of your sal - va - tion and up - hold me with your free spir - it.

Let us pray.

**Blessed are you, O God,
maker of all things.**

**Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.**

**Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows a musical score for 'Great Thanksgiving' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. The third staff has a slightly more complex melody with some eighth notes. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final cadence.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - - - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for 'Sanctus' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes, often beamed together. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. The third staff has a slightly more complex melody with some eighth notes. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final cadence.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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, 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

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.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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

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

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de-liv-er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the
glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace. A - men.

We sit.

COMMUNION

Holy Communion is available to all who believe, through two options. Those who are able are invited forward to receive the bread and wine through the method of intinction. Please let an usher know if you need a gluten-free wafer. The pastors will come to the pews of those unable to come forward. Those who would like to receive a blessing instead of communion are asked to cross their hands when they come forward.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMN ACS 902 Come Now, O God

LOST IN THE NIGHT

1 Come now, O God, when our love is for - sak - en.
2 Come, when we squan - der the free - dom you gave us.
3 Come, put an end to our self - serv - ing mad - ness.

Come, when our bed - rock of faith has been shak - en.
Come, break the sys - tems of sin that en - slave us.
Come, while the world is en - shroud - ed in sad - ness.

Come, when our deep - est of hopes are mis - tak - en.
Come, though we won - der if you can still save us.
Come, turn the tears of our mourn - ing to glad - ness.

Come, Em - man - u - el. Come, Em - man - u - el.

We stand.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful-filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir-it,
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er.
A - men.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

T SENDING T

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace T bless you now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.

SENDING HYMN 436 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

WACHET AUF

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God!

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

Emma Lou Diemer

Soli Deo Gloria!

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Divine Doodles



AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod

Rostered Ministers of Word and Sacrament

The Reverend Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Joe Yucha, Associate Pastor

Rostered Minister of Word and Service

The Reverend Katie B. Bryant, Youth & Emerging Ministries

Our rostered ministers observe Friday as their sabbath day.

Please refer to the announcement sheet for the pastor on call.

Daniele Olsen: Executive Assistant

Kris Andrews: Interim Financial Administrator

Carl Davis: Sexton

Dr. Timothy Olsen: Cantor

Christin Barnhardt: Handbell & Children's Music Director

Hannah Norem: Vicar & Communications Coordinator

Robin Welch: Youth & Outreach Coordinator

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation