



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Time For Hope

December 3, 2023

9:00 AM

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

6705 Northway +++ Greendale, WI +++ 53129

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Rev. Monte Peterson, Pastor
Heather May, Youth & Family Minister
Carol Peterson, Music Director
Becky Cunningham, Office Manager

*Members of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, in response to Christ's love,
Reach out in service to each other, the community, and the world.*



*Welcome to Worship! All words will be displayed on the screen.
Kids, don't forget your Praise Packs! Children's Bulletins are available in the Praise Packs!*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: We gather today.

C: It is time to worship!

P: We listen for God

C: It is time to hear!

P: We receive God's grace.

C: It is time to be loved!

P: We leave in peace.

C: It is time to serve others!

P: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.



PRELUDE

"Carols for Strings"
The Banman Family

Traditional

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: *With God, there is always time for forgiveness. We trust God as we confess our sins together (Brief pause)*

P: *Holy One,*

C: We have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts. Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done.

P: *People of God, God's judgment is certain and God's forgiveness is lightning fast. Hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders.*

C: Amen.



OPENING HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#257, Verses 1, 5 & 6



ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

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.

Candle Liturgy

Lighting of the First Candle

Hymn

“He Came Down”

He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope; hallelujah for ever more.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Monte



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“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. ²⁸“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. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But 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.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

 **SERMON**

Pastor Monte

 **SERMON HYMN**

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

#436, Verses 1&2

 **Apostle’s 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 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 THE CHURCH**

P: God of mercy,

C: hear our prayer

 **PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always **C: And also with you.**
Please greet one another with the words, “Peace be with you.”

 **OFFERING**

*Pew Pads are located at the far end of each pew.
Please fill them out and pass them, noting those seated around you.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*“We Are Waiting”
Voices of St. Luke’s*

Albrecht, Wesley and Althouse

Children are invited to gather at the back during the anthem and help bring forward the offering.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Open your hearts.

C: We open them to God and to one another.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

DISTRIBUTION

You will be invited to stand or kneel at the altar.
If you wish to have the Pastor bring communion to your pew, please notify an Usher.
All are Welcome!

☪ COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

#247

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: Amen.

☪ BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN *"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"*

☪ DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Hark! The Glad Sound"

David Cherwein

+ THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ASSISTED DURING WORSHIP TODAY! +

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by **Todd and Diane Beutin**
In loving honor of Carly's 31st birthday

ETERNAL FLAME for the month of December is given by **Pat Erdmann**
in loving memory of her husband's birthday, Roger Erdmann.

You can now **GIVE ONLINE**, by scanning the QR code:



Thank you for all the ways you contribute to the life and ministry of the church!

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Monday, December 4	9:00 am Quilters
Tuesday, December 5	Church Directory Photos
Wednesday, December 6	1:00 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation; (L) 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Choir 7:15 pm Synergy
Friday, December 8	Church Office Closed 5:00 pm Christmas Tree Decorating 6:00 pm Children's Program Rehearsal (speaking parts)
Saturday, December 9	9:00 am Christmas Program Rehearsal 1:00 pm Mike Wiken's Visitation 2:30 pm Mike Wiken's Funeral
Sunday, December 10	9:00 am Worship 9:00 am Children's Christmas Pageant 10:00 am Fellowship 10:15 am Education Hour – Anxiety Class 5:00 pm Blue Christmas Worship

Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY:

- **Annual Advent BREAKFAST**
- **POINSETTIAS** - The deadline to order is today!
- **Lutheran A Cappella Choir Performance**
Plan on attending the concert today (featuring members from our own church!) at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary. Ticket price at the door is \$15.00 general admission, Students free with ID. This special event will be followed by a reception sponsored by St. Luke's Voices.

LAST CALL for Directory Photos - Tuesday, December 5, 2 pm-9pm. Sign up at ucdir.com. Church Id is WI295 and password is photos. Call the church office if you need help!

THE GIVING TREE. Gifts should be returned to St. Luke's wrapped with the card securely taped to the package by Sunday, December 10th NOTE: Once the cards have all been taken, you're invited to fill the tree with hats, scarves, mittens, and underwear for our (adult and children) friends at Hephatha.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING - Friday, December 8, 5 pm. Pizza to follow at Rudy and Jan Miller's.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Christmas can be a difficult season, whether it is due to the recent death of a loved one, illness, or just the weight of memories that accumulate like snowflakes. If you need a break from the "merry merry," join us on Dec 10 at 5 pm as we gather for a reflective service of hope and healing.

3rd QUARTER GIVING STATEMENTS are available to pick up at the Welcome Center, for those who chose to receive them in paper form.

NURSERY

The nursery is now open for children ages 0-3! Adeline (**Addie**) Klockenkemper is eager to care for your little ones as you worship. Rest assured; babies are still welcome in the sanctuary; this just provides another option.

YOUTH TUBING OUTING

Middle & High Schoolers are invited to come to the ROCK for tubing on Wednesday, December 13th 6pm-8:30pm. This is in place of Confirmation & Synergy. Sign up at www.slchurch.org/sign-ups

PAJAMA VESPERS!

Gather around the Christmas tree for evening Vespers Thursday, December 21, 2023 at 6:30pm. Children (and adults) are invited to attend in their pajamas and snuggle on the lap of a loved adult. Together we will hear the Christmas story, do an activity, sing carols and celebrate Jesus' birth. Sign up at the welcome center today or at www.slchurch.org/sign-ups

We love children at St. Luke's, and welcome babies and young children and all their exuberance into worship! To make it easier for parents, we have "busy bags" available by the entrance, as well as "praise packs" that help encourage children's engagement in worship. We also have a cry room available in the back of the sanctuary with changing facilities and rocking chairs as well as a staffed nursery for children ages 0-3. We know it takes a lot of work to get to church and worship with young ones; we're glad you're here!

Let the little children come to me ...
it is to such as these that the
kingdom of God belongs.

Mark 10:14, NRSV



****PRAISE PACK ICONS****



Light your candle when the candles are lit at the front of the church & hold it up high.
At the end of the service turn your candle off.



Take out the cross & hold it tight during tight during times of prayer.



Use the ribbon stick to move to the music



Look at the booklet on the clipboard to follow along with today's reading(s), or follow along on the screen



While listening to the sermon, color the picture(s) & do the activity sheets on your clipboards. Can you make any connections between your sheets & the sermon?



Put "I Give myself to God" Paper in the offering plate as your offering.