

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

November 27th, 2022

8:30 & 11:00 Services

First Sunday in Advent

Introduction for the Day: The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's reading both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promise of God.

Advent Reflection for the Week - The Gift of Patience

Waiting is difficult. We eagerly anticipate the desires of our hearts and want them to come soon. We wait for the first day of school or the first snowfall. We wait to see a loved one or to hear a doctor's news. Just as the farmer waits for crops or the fig tree waits for summer, we are reminded to be patient until the coming of the Lord.

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Karen Natterstad

Please stand as you are able.

Call to Worship

This season of Advent confronts many of our emotions.

Sometimes we are terrified and overwhelmed with fear.

“Do not be afraid. Your prayer has been heard.”

Joy and gladness will come to us.

The Holy Spirit will fill our hearts.

And we will all share tidings of comfort and joy.

O God who brings comfort and joy, when fear overwhelms us and we cannot see a way out, speak to our fear. Calm our troubled hearts and provide peace in our fearful world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Advent Proclamation

We Are Waiting for Jesus

We are wait - ing for__ Je - sus; Je - sus__ brings hope.

We are wait - ing for__ Je - sus; Je - sus__ brings hope.

Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.

We are wait - ing for__ Je - sus; Je - sus__ brings hope.

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Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, the God of goodness and lovingkindness, whose Son was sent to save us and whose Spirit is poured out on us and renews us. As people called out of darkness, let us confess our sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and righteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous and merciful God,

we confess that we have strayed from your ways and walked our own paths. We fall asleep to the needs around us, yet our anxieties jar us awake. We are bound up in systems of unrighteousness and injustice. Restore your people, O God; renew your creation; and have mercy on us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Listen to what God is saying, speaking **hope** to those who turn their hearts: the night is far gone, the day is near. All who have a fearful heart, be strong, do not be afraid! God comes in Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May Spirit of holiness fill you with wisdom and might, so that you shall delight in God's ways.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#244 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Advent Greeting

May the hope of this season embrace you with God's grace.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Advent Candle Lighting - The Gift of Hope

Christ comes to lighten our darkness

We wait in hope.

We look forward to the arrival of God's Son, our Prince of Peace.

Come to us, O Prince of Peace.

May this light of ours illuminate this house this Advent.

And may your life illuminate our lives forever!

This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering, and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Let us pray. O Lord our God, you break into our world with messages of **hope**, peace, joy, and love. Renew our strength as we wait for your coming. Shine your light for those who live in darkness. Establish your love throughout the earth. Prepare our hearts for the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of us all.

Blessed be God forever. Amen. *[The first Advent candle is lit.]*

Advent Response

Christ Be Our Light

1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your ho - ly
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone has pow'r to

peo - ple, light for the world to see. _____
save us. Make us your liv - ing voice. _____

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gath - ered to - day. _____

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Word - Generous God

Advent & stewardship conversation begins with God - God's generosity to come as Savior to restore the world.

First Reading

John 3:16-17

A reading from John, chapter 3.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Advent Acclamation

Emmanuel

Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el, his name is called
 Em-man - u - el. God with us, re-veal'd in
 us, his name is called Em-man - u - el.

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Second Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10 (Preaching text)

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 35.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Karen Natterstad

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

#257 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel [Stanzas 1-4]

(Prayer Cards will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)

(8:30 Service)

Profession of Faith

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.**

(8:30 Service please turn to page 8)

(11:00 Service)

Service of Holy Baptism for Charlotte Baumann

Please follow along in your Hymnals on Page 227.

Please be seated.

Presentation

Please stand as you are able.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Please be seated.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood, you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism

Baptismal Response

#212 You Belong to Christ

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu ia.

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Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

(8:30 & 11:00 Services Continue)

Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.

Prayers of Intercession

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

Call to Prayer

Come, Lord Jesus. Hear our Prayer

Come, Lord Je - sus, come, Lord Je - sus. Hear our prayer.

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God, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.*Please be seated.*

Meal

Musical Offering 11:00 *The Lord Shall Come and Not Be Slow* by Zebulon M. Highben
– Senior Choir Small Group

The Lord shall come and not be slow; his light is soon appearing. Prepare, you children here below who are these tidings hearing, Who are they tidings hearing:

Arise, O sleepers, trim your lamps! Their flames so swiftly burning Reveal the path to hope and peace, the dawn for which you're yearning, The dawn for which you're yearning.

Come forth, you weary, meek and poor! Forget your strife and labor. Messiah comes to those who toil, bestowing God's own favor, Bestowing God's own favor.

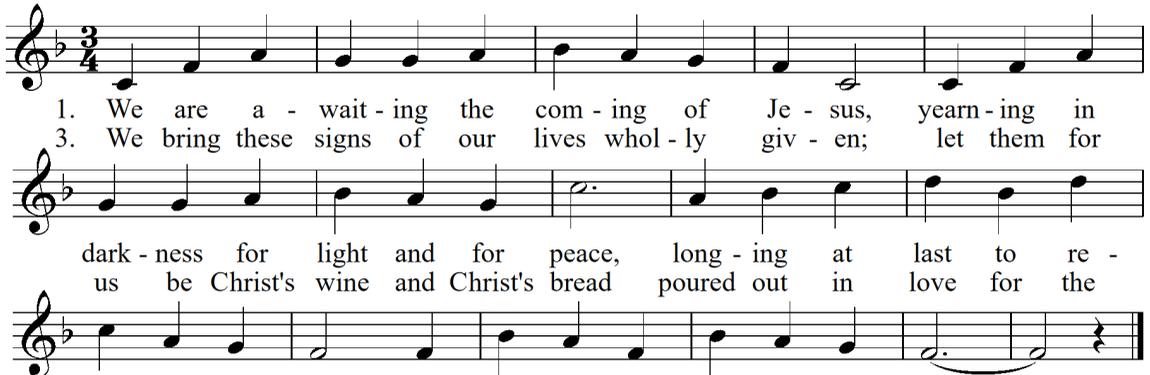
Your king eternal, Lord on high, in humble form and lowly, Transforms a simple oxen stall into a throne most holy.

For Christ shall come and not be slow; his light is now appearing. Rejoice, you saints on earth below! His reign of love is nearing. His reign of love is nearing.

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

We Are Awaiting the Coming of Jesus



1. We are a - wait - ing the com - ing of Je - sus, yearn - ing in
 3. We bring these signs of our lives whol - ly giv - en; let them for
 dark - ness for light and for peace, long - ing at last to re -
 us be Christ's wine and Christ's bread poured out in love for the
 joice on that day when all peo - ple join in this feast. _____
 heal - ing of all and bro - ken that all may be fed. _____

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Offering Prayer

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come, your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.

Let us share in the feast of salvation.

Please be seated.

Communion Hymn

#266 All Earth is Hopeful

Please stand as you are able.

Post-Communion Response

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which you have now just received, strengthen you and keep you in his love and grace.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing

Isaiah says, "*The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.*" May 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. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

The coming of the Lord is near. Go in peace, prepare the way.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude