

Trinity Lutheran Church

First Sunday in Advent

November 29, 2020

8:30 a.m.

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

THE GREETING: 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.**

GATHERING HYMN "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" ELW #247 Verse 1 (sung by musicians) p. 7

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

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 freefree 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. Amen. **November 29, 2020** (1stSunday of Advent) *"And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."–* Mark 13:37

Advent calls us to pay attention and to look for signs of Christ in the world. As we enter a new season of the church year, we continue to give thanks and show gratitude. Pay attention. Look around. Opportunities to be a blessing to others abound!

RADIO BROADCAST is given by Kathy Kottenbrock.

Musicians

MORNING PRAYER

L: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadast love, O God,C: that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.Praise to the blest and holy Trinity, one God,who gives us life, salvation, and resurrection. Alleluia.

PSALMODY

L: Give glory to God, our light and our life.C: Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

Refrain

Musicians

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms. For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours. The sea is yours, for you made it; and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Come let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C: Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

Karen Botine, reader

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. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

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. 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. 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.

ADVENT DIALOGUE

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength, and my might; and has become my salvation. A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him; his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. (Based on Isaiah 11:1-3; 12:2)

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:24-37 "Glory to you, O Lord."

[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. 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."

The Gospel of the Lord. "Praise to you, O Christ."

SERMON

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 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 Pastor Lee Herberg

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 PRAYERS OF GOD' S PEOPLE
 Please pray for Eric, Arlys, Wendy, Earl, Clint, Donna, Mike, Luann, Katrina, Mike, and Bev.

 (A prayer song led by the musicians will precede and follow the prayers)

OFFERING/MUSICAL OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of Zechariah, you break into our fearful world with news of joy and gladness. Give light to all who sit in darkness, and guide our feet into he way of peace. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Soon, the angel will announce to the shepherds, "Fear not! I bring you good news of great joy." As we await the coming of Christ, may the God of our salvation grant you peace and joy, hope and gladness. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN "You, Dear Lord" ELW #702 p.8

DISMISSAL Fear not! Christ is coming soon. **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

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Pastors

Musicians

Pastoral Intern Colin Neuharth

Organists Amanda Samuelson Scott Houser

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Address to mail offering:

502 N 4th St. Bismarck, ND 58501 Phone: 223.3560

Website:

www.trinitybismarck.com

CHRISTMAS BAKING NEEDED — Christmas goodies will again be shared with our shut-ins this year. If you are willing to share your baking, or some fruit, please bring it to the church office no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9th.

PLEASE SPONSOR A RADIO BROADCAST – Our Sunday morning Radio Broadcast is a tremendous outreach program. People who can't be at worship for any number of reasons – sickness, hospitalization, shut-in, traveling – still have a chance to be connected to the church they love. Now that our services are streamed live over the internet we can literally touch people around the world. Please help us sponsor every Sunday of 2021. The cost is \$250. Please sign up at the Welcome Center and we will be in contact with you about the details. You can also call Jan in the church office to sign up. There are only 18 Sundays left to fill!

THURSDAY COMMUNION—December 10, afternoon. Please call the church office at 223.3560 for appointments.

WEEKLY ADVENT WORSHIP will be held Sundays at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULECouncil has decided we will have in person worship on Christmas Eve. Worship times will be:2:00 p.m.3:30 p.m.5:30 p.m.10:00 p.m.

*If you plan to attend an in-person worship service you **will need to make reservations**. We will only be able to seat 140 people at each service. Reservations can be made on-line or by calling the church office starting December 21st.

*We will not exceed the Governors mandate of 150 people in the sanctuary.

*All people must wear masks.

- We will also provide a Pre-recorded service, with more music. Bulletins for this service will be on our website so you can print them off and sing along if you would like. This service will premier on You Tube at noon on Christmas Eve. Since it is on You Tube you will be able to watch it at any time you would like.

- The 5:30 service will be broadcast on 1270AM. If someone is willing to sponsor this service, please call the church office at 223.3560.

- Christmas Day there will be no in person worship, instead we will premier a Christmas Day Worship on You Tube at 10:00AM. Again, bulletins will be available on our website so you can engage worship.

WE EXTEND OUR CONGREGATION'S SYMPATHY to the family of Judi Korbl. Please remember her family in your prayers.

POINSETTIA DONATION

We are now receiving \$12 donations for our Christmas display of poinsettias! Each year, we purchase poinsettias for our Trinity shut-ins, as well as for those taking a plant home after Christmas worship. The remainder of the poinsettia donations will be shared with our 2020 Christmas offering benevolence. All donations and accompanying dedications will be listed in the Christmas bulletins. THANK YOU! **Deadline: December 16th.** You can complete the form below, or call the church office with your order.

I would like to take a poinsettia home.

I would like to give a poinsettia to a shut-in or leave my plant at the church.

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My gift is in memory of:

My gift is in honor of:



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2 En esta noche sigo tus pasos, aunque no vea clara tu luz. Guíanos, tú, por esta vida, por esta vida hasta la luz. Estribillo Pronto vendrá el nuevo día, amanecer de eterna luz. Nace en nosotros paz y esperanza, juntos veremos la luz sin fin. Estribillo

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