



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

Gathering, Growing and Giving, we encourage faith and proclaiming God's love."

1st Sunday of Advent

Service of the Word

Nov. 29th 2020

If you are a VISITOR with us today, we are so grateful that God brought you here. If you are comfortable doing so, please share your name in our Facebook post and/or send a message to us in our FB Inbox.

NOTE: Bold text indicates worshippers' response, and *' means please stand as able

PRELUDE

Jennifer Kinblom

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

GATHERING

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

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

* 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.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING *Light 1 candle **HOPE** as we sing verse 1 of "One Candle Is Lit," sung to tune of "Away in the Manger"*

Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,/our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light./Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage./One candle is lit for the hope of the age. Mary Anne Parrott, 1988, © 1995 Chalice Press (from *Chalice Hymnal*, # 128)

ADVENT READING: *Congregation responds with **bold print***

Christ, we sit in darkness, but you are our light. We long for your coming into our hearts, into our lives and into our world.

You are the One for whom all the peoples of the earth wait.

Our world has been shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic, financial fallout from it, and a contentious presidential election year.

We wait in anticipation expecting God's light to penetrate our darkness and radiate within us.

In the midst of our doubts and our insecurities we are reminded that you are never shaken. Your faithfulness reaches to the ends of the earth.

We watch and wait expecting new light to shine as the season of joy approaches.

You are our rock and our refuge, an ever present help in trouble. Come down, come in, walk with us so that we trust in you and not be shaken.

We wait in hope attentive to all the signs of Christ's coming.

GROWING

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. A reading from the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 64

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.

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

*The Gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter. **All: 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 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.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

MUSIC TO MEDITATE ON *Listen and be filled with God's peace.*

Jennifer Kinblom

GIVING

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

NOTE: Giving to support God's ministry at Shepherd of the Hill can be mailed in – OR - go to GIVE tab on our website (www.sothem.org) to make a one time or reoccurring donation. (Mailing address: 207 University St., Elk Mound, WI 54739)

* OFFERING PRAYER **Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.**

* PRAYERS (*Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.*)

* LORD'S PRAYERS **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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

* ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING 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.**

* WOV #633 SENDING HYMN "Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn" verses 1, 2, & 4 next page

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today 10:00am - Worship
Monday 7pm - AA Meeting
Tuesday: 4-6 pm - Food Pantry
Wednesday 2pm - LIVE with God on Facebook
NO Confirmation...watch worship at 7pm
7:00pm - Blue Christmas Worship (LIVE on Facebook)
- Lighting of *Christmas Love Lights*
Friday: 10 am-12pm - Food Pantry

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND READERS If you are interested in reading and or candle lighting, please email Pastor Mary at 715-308-0652

LOVE LIGHTS...honoring and remembering our loved ones, while supporting local kids and local ministry. Find the form to order your Love Lights on our website at www.sothem.org

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Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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