

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
First Sunday in Advent
Faithful Through Generations
November 28, 2021



PRELUDE

Organist: Jeff Rudi

Welcome and Announcements

HYMN

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

(Verse 1)

ELW #240

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

C: Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: God for whom we wait, **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

L: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **C: Amen.**

Come and Worship

Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er the earth.
Ye who sang creations story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Chorus

Come and worship, come and worship,
Come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

Shepherds in the fields abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night.
God with man is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light
(*Chorus 2x*)

Saints before the altar, bending,
Watching, longing, hope and fear.
Suddenly the Lord descending
in His temple shall appear.
(*Chorus 2x*)

Bridge

Shine Your light forever and ever
Shine Your light forever and ever
Shine Your light
Shine Your light in the world
(*Repeat Bridge*)
(*Chorus 1*)

GREETING & KYRIE

ELW p. 165

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

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy.

L: 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. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast"

ELW p.169

Refrain: **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *Refrain***

**2. Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. *Amen. Refrain***

**3. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
*Alleluia. Refrain x2***

L: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p.171

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

John 15:12-17

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Living in the Home of Love” (Part III)
“Surprised by Joy”

Pastor Dan Nordin

Rejoice

See the morning, see it rising
Over the mountains high
See the mercy, in the mighty hand of God
Living water, come and fill us
Only You can satisfy
Turn our sorrow, into singing
The song of life

Lord Your strength is, a tower
The righteous run into
Lord Your love is, a banner over us
And we hold on, to the promise
That Your hold on us is true
There's no other, like You Jesus
No one like You
(Chorus-2x)

Chorus

Rejoice, rejoice
And sing with the angel voices
Rejoice, rejoice
All Heaven and earth rejoice

Bridge

Always, again I say rejoice
Always, again I say rejoice
Always, again I say rejoice
Always, always
(Chorus-2x)

***THE 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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, 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 (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.)**

***The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

ELW p.172

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***THE PREFACE**

***THE SANCTUS**

ELW p. 173

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***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.**

LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 174

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion Song (*Bulletin Insert*)

***L:** 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.**

***BENEDICTION:** May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine on you and be gracious to you. May God look on you with favor and give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Your Grace Is Enough

Great is Your faithfulness, O God of Jacob
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead me by still waters into mercy
Where nothing can keep us apart

Chorus

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise, O God
For Your grace is enough
Yeah, Your grace is enough
Yeah, Your grace is enough
Yeah, Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of heaven's vict'ry
And all Your people sing along
(*Chorus - 1x*)

***L:** Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

(**Please Stand*)