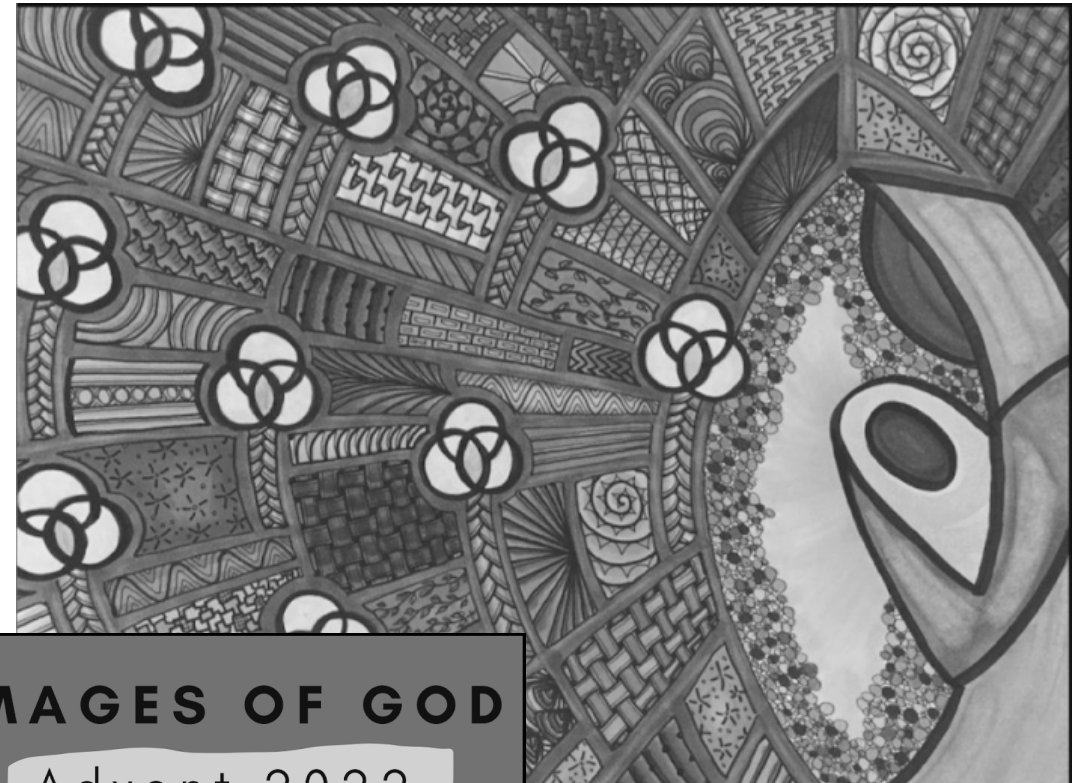


The Fourth Sunday in Advent



IMAGES OF GOD

Advent 2022

December 18, 2022

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

Brooklyn Center, MN

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us. For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:

All: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For misuse of human relationships, and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For jealousies that divide families and nations, and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God, and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ, and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen!**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Coffee Fellowship** - You're invited to join the COG after worship to share in food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Christmas Services** - Mark your calendars: Christmas Eve worship will take place at 4 pm on Dec 24th, and Christmas morning worship will take place at 9:30 am on Dec 25.
- **Bible Study** - Join the COG Bible Study as we explore the texts for the upcoming Sunday on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am onsite and online. Note: we will not gather on 12/27.
- **Stewardship 2022** - Thanks for your good courage in giving toward what God has in store for COG in 2023! If you haven't yet submitted your pledge card, please do so ASAP by sending it to the office or filling it out online at www.crossofglory.us.
- **Care & Visitation** - If you're interested in receiving a visit from Pastor Ali or a CoG friend, or would be willing to serve as a visitor (who makes either in-person or phone call visits to homebound members), let Rachel in the office know (office@crossofglory.us).
- **Want to Know More About COG?** - We're so glad you're worshiping with us! Welcome. If you're interested in learning more about life together at COG, reach out to Pastor Ali (atranvik@crossofglory.us).

MUSIC CREDITS

The Order of Service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship which is commended for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams
Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease
Vocalists: Becca Floyd, Erik Haugland,
Kim Jacobson, Kris Simon
Greeters: Linda Knudsen, Judy Lewis

Reader: Judy Lewis
Ushers: Cheryl Anderson, Dick Mero,
Don Halverson
Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Dawn
Bailey & Bill Bailey
Ministers: The People of Cross of Glory



WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

Please join us in lifting up these brothers and sisters in prayer:

- Mavis Wold
Shar Lauster
Norma Gilbertson
Audrey Swanberg
Don and Karen Earnest
Rachel Marquardt

Chet Janasz
Ron Tollefsrud
Jeannie Kuzmich
Friends and family of Dale Anderson
in his recent passing

To be added or removed from the weekly prayer list, please contact the church office (office@crossofglory.us) or call 763-533-8602.

You are welcome to stop at our community prayer wall just outside the sanctuary to place a written prayer in the wall. Further instructions are at the prayer wall.

*** Please stand as you are able ***

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

MUSIC

Bring Many Names

Verse 1

Bring many names
Beautiful and good
Celebrate in parable and story
Holiness in glory
Living loving God
Hail and Hosanna!
Bring many names.

Verse 2

God with us,
Christ , Emmanuel,
Soon a babe incarnate in a manger
While we wait your coming,
Be with us now.
Hail and hosanna!
Bring many names.

Verse 3

Great living God
Never fully known
Joyful darkness
far beyond our seeing
Closer yet than breathing
Everlasting home
Hail and Hosanna!
Bring many names

Verse 4

God who sends us forth
Into the world,
Help us see your
Image in each other.
Open us up to
seeing you a-new.
Hail and hosanna!
Bring many names.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
Pastor: Let us pray together...

God of many names, as we hear your Word and reflect on your image, open us to seeing you anew, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, the one for whom we wait. Amen.

*** Please be seated ***

MUSIC Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn #242

Verse 1

Awake! Awake,
and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy,
for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.

Verse 2

To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing;
music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of lovingkindness,
the thunder of his anthems roll
to shatter all hatred and blindness.

Verse 3

In darkest night his
coming shall be,

when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute
break forth in song,
the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the
strong,
and weapons be broken asunder.

Verse 4

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart
in the night,
though dark the winter
and cheerless,
the rising sun shall
crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song
and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 91:1-4

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.'
For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence;
he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

Please stand as you're able.

MUSIC O Come, O Come Emmanuel #257

Kids are invited to play an instrument on the last song of the service. Pick an instrument from the basket in the center aisle in the back of the sanctuary, return to your seats, and make a joyful noise!

Verse 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

Verse 2

O come, O Wisdom
from on high,
embracing all things
far and nigh:
in strength and beauty
come and stay;

teach us your will
and guide our way. *Refrain*

Verse 5

O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide
our heav'nly home;
make safe the way
that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain

Verse 8

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. The image of God is all around you!

A: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

It is not true that peace and justice are abstract impossibilities for which we must patiently wait.
This is true: the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand.
So we journey through Advent, open to the image of God in and all around us.
We journey through Advent with anticipation, with joy, and with good courage, confessing our faith in Jesus Christ—Emmanuel—God With Us. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: God our Mother Hen,
All: Hear our prayer.

LORD’S PRAYER

Let us now pray the prayer Jesus taught us... **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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

**ALL: O God, you have called us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
By paths as yet untrodden,
Through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage.
Not knowing where we go,
But only that your hand is leading us,
And your love supporting us,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen!**

Leader: The word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM **The King Shall Come** **R. Leaf**

*** Please stand as you are able ***

SCRIPTURE READING **Luke 13:31-35**

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” ’

Leader: The word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

*** Please be seated ***

REFLECTION I

MUSIC **As a Mother Comforts Her Child** **#1015**

Verse 1	
As a mother comforts her child,	counsels her friend,
so God will comfort you.	so the Spirit will counsel you.
As a hen gathers her brood,	The Trinity of love
so Christ will gather you.	will be with you.
As a wise one	(repeat)

REFLEC TION II

MUSIC Your Little Ones, Dear Lord #286 verses 1-3

Verse 1
Your little ones,
dear lord, are we,
and come your lowly bed to see;
Enlighten ev’ry soul and mind,
That we the way to you may find.

Verse 2
With songs
we hasten you to greet,
And kiss the ground
before your feet.

Oh, blessed hour,
oh, sweetest night
That gave you birth,
our soul’s delight.

Verse 3
Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
And to us all your grace accord;
True faith and love to us impart,
That we may hold
you in our heart.

*** Please stand as you are able ***

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And always with you.

P: Let’s share a sign of God’s peace with one another.

*** Please be seated ***

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

During today’s time of offering we invite you to give in response to the gifts that God has first given us. If you’re worshipping in person, plates will be passed around the sanctuary. If you are worshipping online, you’re invited to share your offering via the “Give” page at www.crossofglory.us. Or scan the QR code with your smart phone camera.



OFFERTORY MUSIC As the Dark Awaits the Dawn #261

Verse 1
As the dark awaits the dawn,
So we await your light.
O Star of promise, scatter night,
Loving bright, loving bright,
Till shades of fear are gone.

Verse 2
As the blue expectant hour,
Before the silv’ring skies,
We long to see your day arise,
Whole and wise, whole and wise,
O lucent Morning Star.

Verse 3
As the moon reflects the sun
Until the night’s decrease,
May we your healing light release,
Living peace, Living peace,
Unto your holy dawn.

Verse 4
Shine your future on this place,
Enlighten ev’ry guest,
That through us stream your
holiness,
Bright and blest, bright and blest;
Come dawn, O Sun of grace.

ADVENT CONFESSION OF FAITH

L: It is not true that creation is doomed to hunger and poverty, cruelty and violence, destruction and death.

All: This is true: For God so loved the world that God gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

It is not true that there is not enough.

This is true: Jesus has come that we may have life, and life abundant.

It is not true that hatred will have the last word, that injustice will endure.

This is true: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder. His name shall be called wonderful counselor, mighty God, the everlasting, the prince of peace.

It is not true that we are alone.

This is true: God is with us always, even until the end of the age.

It is not true that it’s up to others to dismantle what is evil and to work for a new kind of world.

This is true: The Spirit has been poured out on all flesh--and our sons and daughters shall prophesy, our young men shall see visions and our old men shall dream dreams.