



December 3, 2023, 9:00 am 1st Sunday of Advent

worship notes:

Welcome to our church family today as we rejoice in the presence of the risen Jesus Christ. Today, the music is found in the **ELW (cranberry hymnal)** and the **ACS (purple hymnal)**, as well as in the bulletin. Children's activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary. Hearing devices can be found as you enter the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to help! We pray that you will experience God's redeeming love and grace as you worship with us. Please stay and enjoy coffee and conversation after worship in the Fellowship Hall!

about the readings today:

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.

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

418 Sumner Street E, Northfield, MN 55057

Pastor David Weeks

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9 am – 2 pm | 507.645.8252
northfieldstp.org | facebook.com/northfieldstp



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Prelude, as the first act of worship, is a time for people to become quiet and focus their hearts and minds for what is to follow, inviting worshipers to transition their busy lives into a sacred space of communion with God and neighbor.

"Sleepers Wake! A Voice is Calling"

by J. S. Bach, 1731.
(Chorale and Prelude, see **ELW#436** for tune and text). Public Domain.

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND VERSE

"You Are the Light"

by Nate Houge
©2009 Lutevist. www.natehouge.com

Chord progression: C F Em G C G C

Je - sus Christ you are the light; Light of the world.

9C F G C G C

Je - sus Christ you are the light; Light of the world.

verse 2:
"hope"

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin. *(silence for reflection)*

Everlasting God, **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!” ELW#246

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.**

KYRIE

“Lord Have Mercy” Pg. 6

HYMN OF 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.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Miss Ann

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia, Alleluia” Pg. 6

GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

Before: Glory to you, O Lord

After: Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Pastor David Weeks

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying” ELW #436

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

after each petition: Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

OFFERING /CHOIR ANTHEM

“We Are Waiting”
arr. Priscilla Lamparter Landis
(words and music by John Helgen, [ACS#905](#))
©2023 Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider, **by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

please follow along: ELW Pg.144
“Holy, Holy, Holy” Pg. 7

LORD’S PRAYER

right column, ELW page 145

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

- All are invited and welcome to participate in Communion.
- Communicants should approach the altar down the center aisle, and return by the side aisles. Ushers will guide you.
- Non-alcoholic juice is available. Gluten-free communion wafers are available.
- Please notify the ushers if you would like Communion from your seat.

COMMUNION SONGS

"Lamb of God" Pg. 8
"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"
arr. Myran Caine
from *A First book of Hymns for the Beginning Organist*. ©1964. Concordia Publishing House.

"Prepare the Royal Highway"
ar. Michael Burkhardt
from *Easy Hymn Settings, Advent & Christmas*, ©1996. MorningStar Music Publishers.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, **in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

SENDING BLESSING

SENDING HYMN "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" ACS#949

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" arr. Michael Burkhardt from 5 Advent Hymn Improvisations, ©1991. MorningStar Music Publishers

Today's Music: Waking Up! is a theme of Advent, so our music calls us to awaken to themes of justice, mercy, righteousness as we begin our preparation for Christmas. Two organ students assist Richard today: Alaia Douah is playing several Advent hymns during communion time; Samantha Zimmerman, organ student at Carleton is here observing service playing. Samantha is a student of Janean Hall.

From [Sundays and Seasons.com](#) ©2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #28318.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Permission to reproduce / podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from either:
[OneLicense.net](#) license number A-708055, CCLI streaming license number CSPL188639,
or permission has been granted by composer.

Mass - O Come, Emmanuel

by Kevin Weed
based on the traditional *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Em Am C Em Em D C G B Am7 D G G B Am A7 C# Dsus D

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Am A7 C# Dsus D Em Bm D C Am Dsus D Gsus G

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

D Em Em D A C D G D G C Am Em B Bm Em Fine Repeat if desired.

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

Em Am C Bm D Dsus D Fine

D.S. al Fine

Use proper verse:

music © 2011 by Kevin Weed - [www.kevinweed.com](#)

Published with the approval of the Committee on Divine Worship, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.
Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.
English translation of *Kyrie* © 1988 English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC).
[www.englishtexts.org](#). Used by permission.

Sheet Music

Recording Information

KevinWeed.com
Mass O Come Emmanuel

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord. Lord ____ God ____ of hosts. Heav-en and earth ____ are

full ____ of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -

san-na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of ____ the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, holy, holy text © 2010 by ICEL, Inc.
All rights reserved

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins ____ of the

world, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world, grant ____ us peace.

Music ©2011 by Kevin Weed – www.kevinweed.com
used with permission from composer.

Prayer Ministry

Contact the church office to submit names of people to be included in our Sunday prayers. Please provide an update if situations improve or renew request bi-monthly.

Today we pray especially for:

Bob A. (brother of Joyce), Paula B. (daughter of Judy), Bernice C., Tom D. (brother of Julia), Carl E. (friend of Pete & Susan), Lyle G., Angela H. (friend of Doris W.), Donna H. (friend of Karen), Ron H., Daryl K., Tami L., Christopher L. (son of Sonja), Inez N., Nell P. (sister of Diane & Pete), Scott Q. (relative of Carmen), Jaynie R. (daughter of Jeff & Stephanie), Kathy S. (sister of Sheryl), Roya S. (great niece of Pete and Diane), Karen W. (cousin of Carmen, Char), Mark W. (brother of Claire)

(last names are withheld for on-line privacy.)

If you would like a visit or phone call from Pastor David, please contact the Church Office at 645-8252.

Today’s Worship and Fellowship Leaders

Reader: Julia Daly

Special Music: Worship Choir; Alaia Douah, organ

Organist: Richard Collman

Ushers: Don + Roberta Bonrud

Communion Servers: Sheryl Kleppe, Jolene Manzey, Julia Daly

Hospitality: Dale + Linda Ness

Live Stream: Bill Bleckwehl

Would you like to follow along with today’s readings?

For today’s lesson and gospel texts, scan with your smart phone’s camera:



Thank you!

Thank you for all you do to serve Jesus here at St. Peter’s. In addition to giving in worship, you may mail or drop off your offering, set up auto payment through Vanco or bill pay, or use the included QR code for Vanco.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols | Sunday, December 3rd

Sunday, December 3, 7:00 p.m., First English Lutheran Church, Cannon Falls

I Cantanti Chamber Choirs of Northfield is celebrating its 20th year of presenting a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This year’s concerts will be at the Carleton Chapel on Sunday, November 26th at 4:00 p.m., and at First English Lutheran Church in Cannon Falls on Sunday, December 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. This year’s concert will feature music by composers John Rutter, John Tavener, William Mathias, and arrangements by Salli Terri and Alice Parker. There are also opportunities for the audience to sing along on familiar carols. A free-will exit offering will be taken. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts & cultural heritage fund.

Harp Recital + Christmas Tea | Saturday, December 9th

Come and enjoy Christmas music on Saturday, December 9th at 2pm. Harpist Madeleine Douah and pianist/clarinetist Alaia Douah will play a selection of Christmas music. Tea, coffee, and seasonal treats to follow the recital.

Advent Service of Peace + Healing | Wednesday, December 20th

Death...divorce...illness...sometimes it's hard to get through this month of December when we do not feel cheerful. The Advent Service of Peace & Healing may help. Listen to beautiful music; light a candle; observe the winter solstice and the turning of the year to more light; come for optional anointing for healing of yourself or others. Grief can take many forms - this "blue Christmas" service may help us lament, cry to God, and support others in their journey. Music for Celtic harp, classical guitar, and cello begins at 3:45 p. m. The service begins at 4:00 p.m., St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 418 East Sumner St., pastors David Weeks, Rachel McIver Morey, and Richard Collman presiding. Sponsored by St. Peter's, United Methodist Church, and the Northfield Grief Support, Coalition, and Outreach.

Poinsettia Orders

Poinsettias will be used to adorn our altar on Christmas Eve to honor/remember loved ones this Christmastime. Order slips can be found at the welcome desk. If you’d like to order/pay electronically you can submit through the Google form and pay via Vanco, please write ‘poinsettia’ in the memo line.

Vanco



Order Form



Community Action Center | Operation Joy

Operation Joy, a community-wide gift sharing program of the Community Action Center (CAC), is set to take place on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023. Each year the CAC’s goal remains the same: to provide a joyful holiday experience for all children in the community. At this time, the most impact way our community can help support this goal is through monetary donations (for more details please see St. Peter’s weekly emails). Additionally, St. Peter’s member and children’s author, Mary Bleckwehl, is donating a case of her newest picture book, Arrrgh! Me HATE To Wait! A story about an impatient piggy pirate who discovers that good things come to those who wait. If you wish to join in this effort, Mary will donate an additional book on your behalf. Your cost: \$15/book. If interested call or text Mary 507-581-0970 or email her: mary@marybleckwehl.com.

Giving Tree

Is there someone to whom you want to give a Christmas gift, but they really don't need anything? Do you want your gift to be an expression of your Christian faith? Of course you do. Check out our Giving Tree in the narthex with ELCA Good Gifts ornaments. Buy honeybees, goats, meals, pigs, chickens, etc. and give financial offering in someone else's name. You can also go online to www.goodgifts.elca.org for more information.

Volunteers for 3:30pm Christmas Eve Worship

Two volunteer ushers and one reader needed for the 3:30pm Christmas Eve worship service (this is a correction from the December newsletter asking for 5pm worship volunteers).



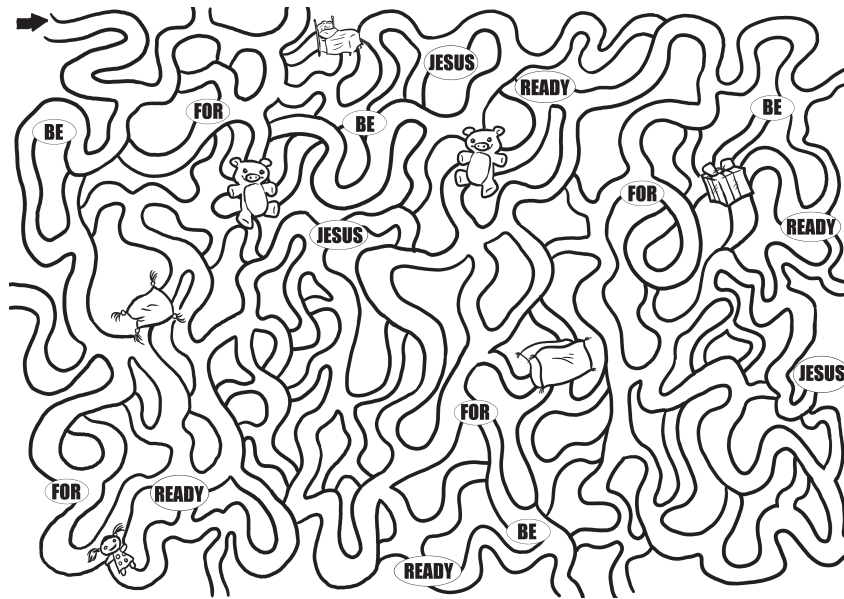
Kids' Corner

Advent 1

Keep Awake!

We learn that Jesus will come at a time when we least expect it. Jesus tells us "Keep awake!" so that we will be ready. During Advent we stay awake and get ready for Jesus.

Follow the maze to get ready for Jesus. Avoid things that would make you sleepy! Pick up words along the way and put them in the blank spaces. They will reveal a secret message.



Secret Message:

_____!



Kids' Corner

Advent 1

- Today is the **first Sunday** in Advent.
- There are **four** Sundays in Advent before we celebrate **Christmas**.
- One **symbol** for Advent is a candle called a luminary.
- A luminary is something that gives off **light**.



Advent Code

Why is light a symbol during Advent?

Crack this code to find out!

D=4 E=5 F=6 G=7 H=8 I=9 J=10
L=12 O=15 R=18 S=19 T=20 U=21 W=23

10	5	19	21	19		9	19	
20	8	5		12	9	7	8	20
	15	6		20	8	5		
23	15	18	12	4				