



All Saints Lutheran Church

Pastor Eric S. Aune
Pastor Matthew Schroeder
Darcy Gray, Office Administrator
Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, Missionaries – Japan

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Hymn “Christ, Be Our Light!”

#715

Verse 1

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Chorus

Christ be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness!
Christ be our Light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Verse 2

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. (*Chorus*)

L: Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.

C: How long, O Lord, how long?

L: For those waiting for answered prayer:

C: Grant your steadfast patience.

L: For those waiting in the face of uncertainty:

C: Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.

L: For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign:

C: Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.

L: For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come:

C: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

This morning we light the first candle. The first candle is the prophecy candle for it represents the period of waiting that precedes the birth of Christ.

First Candle is Lit

Prayer

All: We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be

ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

Verse 4

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Chorus

Christ be our light!
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness!
Christ be our Light!
Shine in your church gathered today

Verse 5

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
signs of your kingdom come. (*Chorus*)

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications

Confession and Forgiveness

L: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**C: I put my trust in you, O God, do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

L: Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let those be ashamed who neglect your faithfulness, and who act with evil intent.

C: Teach me your ways, O God and guide me in your paths.

L: We bring to mind these things for which we are ashamed—

**C: for willfully acting with less than good intentions—
for abusing the faithfulness of God by our failure to live faith-full lives.**

A time of silence for personal reflection

L: Forgive us, O God—

**C: cleanse our hearts and minds of all that prevents us from loving you
and loving our neighbor. May our lives be marked by faith active in love
as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

L: The apostle Paul prayed that “the Lord may make our love overflow for each other and for everyone.... that the Lord may strengthen our hearts in holiness so that we will be blameless before God.” The good news therefore, is this: in and through Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

C: Thanks be to God!

Word

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints

Gospel

Luke 21: 25-36

²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

#242

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 heavenly door
And lives now inside us for ever

To us, to all in sorrow and fear
Emmanuel comes a signing
His humble song is quiet and near
Yet fills the earth with its ringing
Music to heal the broken soul

And hymns of loving kindness
The thunder of his anthems roll
To shatter all hatred and blindness

In darkest night his coming shall be
When all the world is despairing
As mourning 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

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 every day we share
And bring us at last into glory

Text: Marty Haugen b. 1950

Music: Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications Inc.

Sermon

Pastor Matthew Schroeder

Offering Prayer

L: Lord of life, the path to you is straight,
yet we waiver in our pursuit of other things.
Our hopes and dreams often are self-serving and materialistic.
We rush through this season buying gifts
that we hope will convey just the right message.
Through this generosity, we send the world a different kind of message.
This offering is an invitation to ask ourselves if we are equally as busy
preparing messages that proclaim the Good News to a hurting world.
Through this giving, remind us again, O God, of our call to serve our neighbor.
This Advent, may we proclaim a message that is exemplified
by our generosity, our kindness, and our prayers.
In Jesus' name, we pray.

C: Amen.

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 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 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.

Intercessory Prayer

L: O God, the days are surely coming when all your promises will be fulfilled to your faithful children. We pray for this church, that we might fulfill our promises to you, and be forgiven for all our failures.

Come Lord Jesus,

C: and hear our prayer.

L: In your time, O Lord, a righteous branch sprang up and you brought justice and righteousness in every land. We pray for our nation, and all nations, that your peace would be manifest in every corner of the earth.

Come Lord Jesus,

C: and hear our prayer.

L: In your Kingdom, O Lord, you bring your people safety and comfort. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and those in distress of any kind. We hold those named on our prayer list on our hearts. We ask that you would heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

Come Lord Jesus,

C: and hear our prayer.

L: In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your son, to be born of our sister Mary. And his name was Emmanuel: God With Us. We thank you for your Presence with us, and we pray that you might be always present with those whom we love but see no longer.

Come Lord Jesus,

C: and hear our prayer.

Come among us O God, and hear our prayers; so that when your Son Jesus comes among riding on a cloud and with great power and might, we might come to adore him.

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.

Benediction and Sending

L: Go now and let the Lord steer you in the way of truth.

Be on your guard so that you will not be caught up in the trivialities and anxieties of the world.

Whether or not you are entering this holiday season cynical or despairing, hope-filled or hope-less: what matters to God is that you are here.

May God make you increase in love for one another;
May Christ Jesus teach you how to live in God's ways;
and may the Holy Spirit strengthen your hearts in holiness,
as you ready yourselves for the coming of the Lord.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "People, Look East"

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People look east the time is near
Of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able
Trim the hearth and set the table
People look east and sing today
Love, the Guest is on the way

Furrows be glad though earth is bare
One more seed is planted there
Give up your strength the seed to nourish
That in course the flow'r may flourish
People look east and sing today
Love, the Rose is on the way

Stars keep the watch when night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim
Shining beyond the frosty weather
Bright as sun and moon together
People look east and sing today
Love, the Star is on the way

Angels announce with shouts of mirth
Him who brings new life to earth
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word the Lord is coming
People look east and sing today
Love, the Lord is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965
Music" French carol; arr. Barry Rose. b. 1934
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates
Arr © 1999 Novello & Co. Ltd. London

L: Go in peace. Christ goes with you!
C: Thanks be to God.

Accompanist: Chris Starr

WELCOME TO ALL SAINTS

We are glad you chose to worship at All Saints today. We hope you find the worship service meaningful and that you feel at home with our congregation. If you want to learn more about All Saints or are looking to be connected, visit www.allsaintsnyc.org or contact one of our staff:

Darcy Gray, Office Administrator dgray@allsaintsnyc.org

Pastor Eric Aune eaune@allsaintsnyc.org

Pastor Matthew Schroeder mschroeder@allsaintsnyc.org

"Heaven and Nature Sing" Devotion Book - Explore the Advent season and celebrate the joy of the twelve days of Christmas and the day of Epiphany. Heaven and Nature Sing includes daily devotions between the first Sunday of Advent (November 28, 2021) and Epiphany (January 6, 2022). A limited number of copies are available at the Welcome Center for \$3.00.



Thoughts from our hearts for Pastor Eric and Judy:

Write notes of gratitude, memories, and well wishes for Eric and Judy to enjoy in their retirement. See the table in the narthex for all the details. Pastor Eric's last sermon will be Christmas Eve.

Christmas Decorating Supper and Party

All ages are invited to help decorate for Christmas. On Monday, November 29 at 6 pm we will begin with sloppy joe supper and after adults and older children will decorate the sanctuary, narthex and fellowship hall (putting lights and ornaments on the tree and hanging garland) while the younger children make a Christmas craft and watch a movie. When decorating is done we will gather in the sanctuary for a service of candlelight and carols as we light the Christmas tree. Sign-up today at the Welcome Center so we can plan for supper and craft.



Young Adults Gathering-Waconia Brewing Company Tuesday, December 7th at 6:30 pm.

To integrate faith and find meaning in life is not easy. It takes time, it takes the Holy Spirit and it takes a community of friends. That is why we hope you will join Pastor Matt and Pastor Eric as we provide a new opportunity for the young adults at All Saints and in our community to learn, support and discuss how our faith can inform and shape our life. We will bring a meat and cheese tray to share with our friends and there are alcohol free options as well. See you December 7th.

All Saints Advent Choir Concert

The annual Advent-Christmas Choir Concert is Sunday, December 12. Come worship and enjoy music performed by the All Saints choirs at 8, 9 & 10:15 am.



Our Bake Sale is Back!!!!

Women=s Outreach will hold their annual bake sale all morning Sunday, December 12. You can purchase the delicious homemade baked goods prepared by Women=s Outreach and members of the congregation. If you can help us out by donating homemade baked goods, please sign up at the Welcome Center. Items should be dropped off on Friday, December 10 during the day or early Sunday morning.



Toy Drive Help make Christmas a little more special for a family in need this year! In partnership with CAP Agency (Community Action Partnership of Scott, Carver, and Dakota counties), we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for families in our community. These toys will be going to kids anywhere from birth to age 14. You can drop off your unwrapped toys at All Saints any time before December 14. Thank you for sharing God's love through these gifts.

The Week Ahead:

Sun	Nov 28	Worship at 8, 9 & 10:15 am 9:00 am Sunday School Christmas Program Practice for all SS students No Sunday School at 10:15 am (Practice at 9 am)
Wed	Dec 1	3:00 pm WOW 4:30 pm Children's Choir 5:30 pm Confirmation Small Groups 6:00 pm Senior High Gathering 7:00 pm Adult Choir
Thurs	Dec 2	8:00 pm AA
Sat	Dec 4	8:00 am Men's Fellowship at Hillcrest 8:00 am Women's Fellowship at church

Sun Dec 5

Worship at 8, 9 & 10:15 am

9:00 am Sunday School Christmas Program Practice for all SS students

No Sunday School at 10:15 am (Practice at 9 am)

11:15 am Set up Risers in Sanctuary

4:00 pm Caroling at The Harbor



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 28, 2021
Worship at 8:00, 9:00 & 10:15 am

All Saints Lutheran Church
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www.allsaintsnva.org