

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

November 29, 2020

10:00 a.m.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—"BREATH OF HEAVEN"**



*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.*

**PRELUDE** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

tune *Veni, Emmanuel* arr. Marilyn Biery  
Karen Sande, organ

**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity + one God,  
the God who comes to set us free;  
the Breath of Heaven who comes as hope among us;  
the Dawn from on high leading us into peace and joy.  
**Amen.**

**KYRIE**

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your  
 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.  
 peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your  
 word, let us pray to the Lord.  
 Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have  
 Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.  
 mer - cy. A - men.

God does have mercy upon us.  
 Breathe deeply the forgiveness we have been given in the name of + Christ.  
**Amen.**

**APOSTOLIC 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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up your power, O Holy One, and come. Awaken us to the ways we are blinded to  
 your presence that we might see you and follow you into the coming of your reign,  
 through Christ, we pray.  
**Amen.**

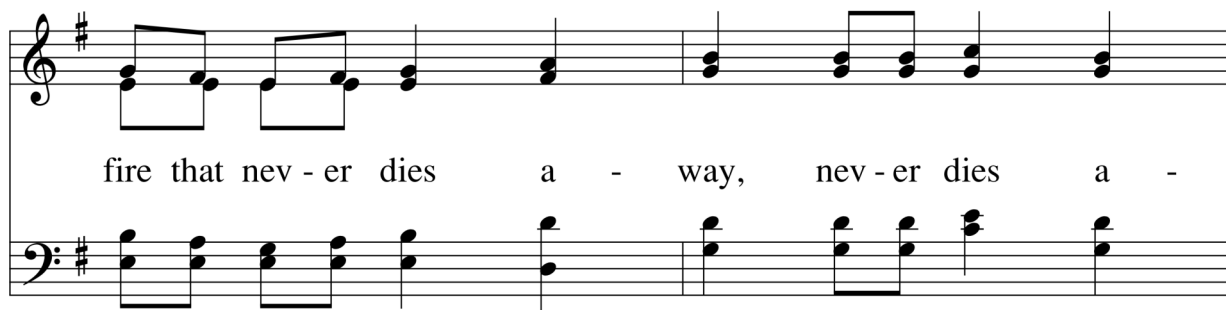
## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

God of branch and blaze,  
in a year marked by fear, uncertainty and sorrow, it is  
an audacious thing we do to light this Advent flame.  
And yet, we pray with hopeful anticipation for the future  
You promise to birth among us. **Amen.**



With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

The first system of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.



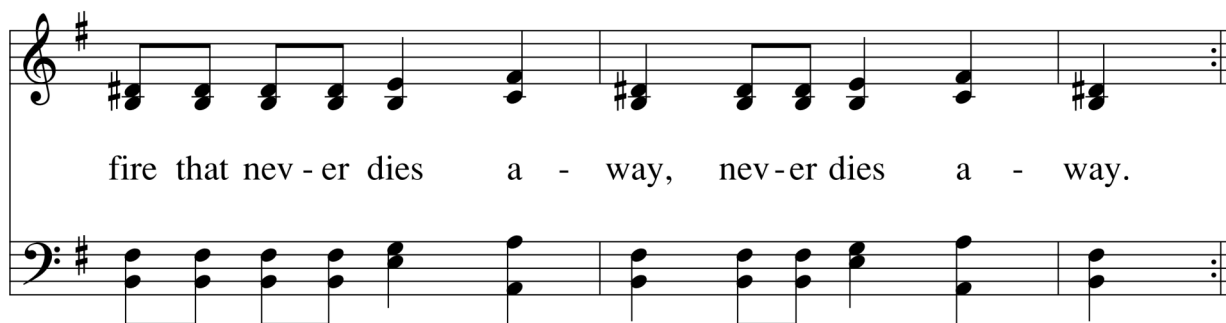
fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a -

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass staff has a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.



way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass staff has a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.



fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the hymn. The treble staff has a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a quarter note F#4. The bass staff has a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, a quarter note C3, a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note G2, and a quarter note F#2.

# WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

**FIRST READING *Isaiah 64:1-9***

*read by Aaron Wedge*

- <sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as 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!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From 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.  
<sup>5</sup>You 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.  
<sup>6</sup>We 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.  
<sup>7</sup>There 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.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN #260 *The King Shall Come***



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

**SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

*read by Cindy Monroe*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Breath of Heaven***

words and music by Chris Eaton and Amy Grant  
Dana Varland, soloist; Bryan Gatten, guitar

*Solo: I have traveled many moonless nights, cold and weary with a babe inside  
and I wonder what I've done. Holy Father, you have come  
and chosen me now to carry your Son.*

**Refrain:**

Breath of Heav-en, hold me to - geth-er, be for-ev - er near me, Breath of  
Heav-en. Breath of Heav-en, light - en my dark-ness, pour o - ver me your  
ho - li-ness, for you are ho - ly, \_\_\_\_\_ Breath of Heav-en.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps). It consists of three lines of music. The first line starts with a 5/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and then to 3/4. The second line starts with a 5/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and then to 3/4. The third line starts with a 3/4 time signature, changes to 4/4, and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across measures.

## **GOSPEL *Mark 13:24-37***

The Holy Gospel according to Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.

<sup>27</sup>Then 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.

<sup>28</sup>“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. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

<sup>34</sup>It 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. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, 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, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Logan McLean Strike, Pastoral Intern

*enter into sermon with a breath prayer:  
Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY #435 *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending***



1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
 2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,  
 3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



once for our sal - va - tion slain;  
 comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;  
 high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 all the saints this world re - ject - ed  
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:  
 thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:  
 claim the king - dom as thine own.




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



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Each prayer petition is followed by silence, then we respond after the words we pray:*



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the petition: "In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you". The second staff contains the melody for the response: "come to us; bring us your light." The lyrics are written below the notes.

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Simply send a text to **218-325-9525** with amount you would like to contribute. Enter a simple number (with no decimal). You'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your card information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

## OFFERTORY MUSIC *Keep Your Lamps*

Spiritual, arr. Andre Thomas

prerecorded by the Soli Deo Gloria Choir; Brett Jones, percussion

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.*

*Children, don't get weary, til your work is done.*

*Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.*

## 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.**

## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

*I will bring her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. Hosea 2:14*

As we travel through this wilderness of time,  
even as we watch and wait, Christ is here.



We break off a piece of bread, touching, tasting and seeing,  
 remembering our God - Breath of Heaven, Body of Earth.  
 As we eat this bread, we remember all the ways God draws near,  
 sustaining us until the day we gather again around this table in this place.  
 We live in hope.

**Amen.**

**HYMN #257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;

*Refrain*  
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Trusting that our God draws near, we pray:

**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.**

**OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

## BLESSING

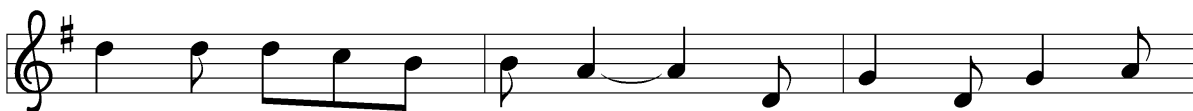
*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN #242 *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.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

tune *Rejoice, Rejoice* arr. Mark Sedio  
Karen Sande, organ

**MINISTERS** All People of First Lutheran Church

**PASTOR** The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman

**PASTORAL INTERN** Logan McLean Strike

**PROGRAM STAFF** Ann Beck, Pastoral Associate  
Karen Sande, Director of Music  
Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities  
Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship

**MUSICIANS** LoAnn Stone, Erna Peterson, Glenn Peterson, Dennis Paulson and Michael Fuchs, singers; Dana Varland, soloist; Bryan Gatten, guitar; Soli Deo Gloria Choir; Brett Jones, percussion;

**VIDEOGRAPHERS** Shania Krause, Sam Weston

**VIDEO EDITOR** Stacie Curnow

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes YOU into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land.

We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

**faithlovecommunity**  
First Lutheran Church

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*Return to church office by Monday Dec. 14th.*

*Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #\_\_\_\_\_*

*# Plants \_\_\_\_\_ at \$13 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_*

*Given in memory of / in honor of (circle one):*

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