 **Kerkhoven Lutheran Church**

 **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**Living and trusting in god’s amazing grace we welcome all to worship, learn and serve in celebration of Christ’s love.**

**First Sunday in Advent**

 **November 28, 2021 9:00 AM**

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

**Prelude**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vss. 1-3 ELW # 257**

**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.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

**The Annunciation**

Luke 1: 26-28, 30-32, 38

Leader: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High.” And Mary said, “I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will.”

**The Magnificat**

Luke 1: 46-55

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**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.**

**WORD**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle Masyn Olson**

*Reader* - During this season we light a candle each week as a reminder that Jesus brings light into the darkness of our world. The first candle we light today we call the **Candle of Hope.**

Through the prophets God promised a future that would include justice and righteousness for all God’s people. The prophet Jeremiah preached that such a future would be revealed through the ‘righteous Branch’ which would spring from the house of David. We share in this hope as we wait for the fulfillment of God’s promise through the coming of Jesus, Savior and light of the world.

*Let us pray:* **Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may know that you are near and that, though the world be drear and dark, we may always live in hope; in Jesus’ name. Amen**

### **First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16**

*In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The Lord is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.*

### 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."

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 25:1-10 Reading Responsively**

1To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
 **2O my God, in you I trust;
 do not let me be put to shame;
 do not let my enemies exult over me.**

 3Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
 let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
 **4Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
 teach me your paths.**

 5Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
 for you are the God of my salvation;
 for you I wait all day long.
 **6Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
 for they have been from of old.**

7Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
 according to your steadfast love remember me,
 for your goodness' sake, O LORD!
**8Good and upright is the LORD;
 therefore he instructs sinners in the way.** 9He leads the humble in what is right,
 and teaches the humble his way.

**10All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
 for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

*Upon Timothy’s report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.*

### 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.

### The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation “Alleluia” ELW p. 142**

### **Gospel:   Luke 21:25-36**

*God will fulfill God’s purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God’s people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God’s promised redemption.*25There 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.
34Be 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."

### The Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON Control? Pastor Tim Larson**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “He Came Down” ELW # 253**

**apostles’ 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.**

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING INTERLUDE**

**OFFERTORY**  **“As the Grains of Wheat”** **ELW #465**

Offering plates and Noisy Offering will be brought to the altar during The Offertory.

*Refrain* As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill

 were gathered into one to become our bread;

 so may all your people from all the ends of earth

 be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,

 may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain*

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come

 when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain*

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each portion of the prayers ends with “Hear us, O God”. Congregation response: “**Your mercy is great”.**

**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.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vss. 6-8 ELW # 257**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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**SERVING THIS MORNING**

Pastor – Timothy P. Larson

Musicians – Alison Nelson and Mariah Rudningen

Lector - Masyn Olson

Ushers – Reid and Becky Carlson

Acolytes – Rudningen Family

Greeter-

***PRAYER CONCERNS:*** *(Periodically these prayer concerns will be moved to the prayer concerns list in the newsletter)* Family of Laura Lottman, Phyllis Loven, Phyllis Meyer, Lee Meyer, Doris Bakken, Haile Nichols, Keith Lundberg, Andrea Raths, Kathy Schol, Dennis Doering, Calvin Carls

**Stewardship Snippet – First Sunday in Advent, Psalm 25:4–**Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.
*The First Sunday of Advent’s theme is hope. Christians find our hope in God. We hunger for God and ask for guidance and strength to live fully as steward/disciples.*

*--Rob Blezard Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission.*

**Fellowship Hour:** Please join us for fellowship hour immediately following the worship service in the fellowship hall. Today WELCA is sponsoring “Advent Cookies and Coffee” along with a Christmas themed basket auction and bake sale. Proceeds with go the WELCA projects and the KMS Backpack project.

**Today - Luther League Vikings Viewing Party:** Luther League members (grades 7 - 12) are invited to Jesse & Alison Nelson's home on Sunday, November 28. The Vikings will be on the big screen, and we'll have some food and laughs. Please bring an appetizer/snack to share. Game starts at 3:25, come at 3:00 or any time after that. You are welcome to bring a friend or two! 870 155th Ave SE, Kerkhoven (big green house on west side of the road).

**Advent Calendars:** We have Advent calendars available for KLC members and families. Please pick one up to use during this Advent season. They are available on the table at the bottom of the stairs, table between the offices and in the Fellowship Hall. The calendars begin on December 1 and a door is opened with a scripture verse or idea for the day to help us prepare for Christmas. These are provided by ELCA World Hunger.

**November Outreach**: We are continuing to collect money, food and other items needed by Ridgewater College Campus Ministry Center during the month of November. You can bring your items and place them in the boxes that are at the bottom of the stairs. These items and offerings will be brought to the college on December 1.

**This Week . . . November 29 – December 5, 2021**

**Wednesday, December 1**

6:00 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation

 7:00 pm Gr. 9-10 Confirmation

**Thursday, December 2**

8:30 am Packing of the KMS food bags for delivery to KMS Schools

**Next Sunday, December 5**: **Second Sunday in Advent**

9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion Service is both in person and Live Streamed

10:00 am 10:00 am Sunday School and Christmas program practice

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall

**Upcoming Events:**

**Wednesday December 8**

6:00 pm Gr. 6-8 Confirmation

 6:30 pm WELCA Boards meet

7:00 pm Gr. 9-10 Confirmation

7:00 pm Church Boards Meet

8:00 pm Church Council Meets

**Sunday, December 12 Third Sunday in Advent**

9:00 am Worship Service both in person and live streamed

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am Sunday School Christmas Program (12-19 in event of weather cancellation) Practice is every week during Sunday School, so please try to have your children attend so they can learn the songs.

**Sunday, December 19**

9:00 am Worship Service with Holy Communion both in person and live streamed

 10:00 am Appreciation Brunch for Pastor Tim Larson

**Snow Removal Bid:** The Board of Properties and Grounds is calling for bids for snow removal at the church. There is snow blower that is available for use in the storage shed. Bids should be submitted to a member of the board or drop off at the church office.

**Meals on Wheels:** KLC is responsible for the Wednesday deliveries of Meals on Wheels in the community for the month of December. Please check your calendars and sign up on the list on the table between the offices for a Wednesday that you can deliver the meals. The Wednesdays we are responsible are: December 8, 15, 22, and 29. Thank you.

**Altar Guild:** The Altar Guild is in need or 2 additional people to work with another team member to prepare the sanctuary for worship each week. For more information contact Barb Norton: barb@theinwell.com or 320-894-2128. Thank you.

**KLC Worship Services are also available for viewing on YouTube!**

**KLC Office Hours for the Week of November 29-December 3:** Church office hour will be Monday - Thursday 9:00 -3:00 pm. The church office is closed on Friday. If you have questions or need assistance please call: Ann Hanson – 320-894-4464, if no answer please leave a message or send a text.

**KLC Website:** You are invited to visit our website. It can be found at <https://www.kerkhovenlutheranchurch.com/>

**On-Line Giving:** It is now possible to give your offering or a donation to KLC on-line at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YNJM> This link will now be available on our Kerkhoven Lutheran Facebook page and is available on our new website (see link above).

**Address Change for Leroy and Phyllis Meyer:** Phyllis and Leroy Meyer are currently in Albert Lea. The address is 75507 240th Street; Albert Lea, MN 56007. The Covid restrictions have been lifted and visitors are currently welcome but let’s keep the mail flowing too.

 **KLC Executive Board** **Board of Christian Education**

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