

Advent Season 2021  
November 28<sup>th</sup>-December 19<sup>th</sup>

First Sunday of Advent  
November 28, 2021  
Hope-Peace-Joy-Love  
**e-Worship**



*Lutheran Church of Our Saviour*  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
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## GATHERING

PRELUDE

*Entrance*

Organ solo/Naoko Okada

### GATHERING SONG #244

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing,  
and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising  
and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
at midnight comes the cry.
- 2 The watchers on the mountain  
proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches  
with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
the bridegroom is at hand.
- 3 The saints, who here in patience  
their cross and suff'rings bore,  
shall live and reign forever  
when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
the Lamb they shall behold;  
in triumph cast before him  
their diadems of gold.

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

- P Blessed are you, God of hosts, for you promised to send a son, Emmanuel, who brought your presence among us; and you promise through your Son Jesus to save us from our sin.
- A As we light these candles, turn again to us in mercy; strengthen our faith in the word spoken by your prophets; restore us and give us life that we may be saved.  
O house of David, come,
- C let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel,  
comes to be with us.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray,

C **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.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

<sup>14</sup>The 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. <sup>15</sup>In 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. <sup>16</sup>In 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."

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 25:1-10

<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your  
good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

### SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

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

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And 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.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 21:25-36**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“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. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

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

<sup>34</sup>“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, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be 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 concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*I Love You Lord*

LCOS Choir

**SERMON**

Dear disciples of Jesus:

Grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus. Amen.

It is Advent Season. Advent Season is marked by the notion of waiting for the Lord. Not only waiting for Christmas that celebrates Jesus’ first coming but waiting for his return, his second coming, what the Bible calls the *Parousia*, the return of the Lord to establish his kingdom forever.

For this reason, in today’s gospel, Jesus is inviting us to prepare for his second coming with a contemplative attitude. Jesus says: “*Look at the fig tree and all the*

*trees;<sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.<sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.”*

An attitude of contemplation throughout the day helps to keep us centered. Contemplation can mean slowing down enough to look at the trees and flowers on a walk, listening wholeheartedly to a friend or relative, or savoring a meal with the family at the end of the day when enjoying the time together. Contemplative attitude means to remember that God is always speaking to us, but we need to slow down enough to listen to what God is trying to show us in the ordinary world. We tend to be very busy, in a hurry, and in this time of Advent and Christmas we tend to forget that the reason for Christmas is the joy of Christ coming to us. It is not the shopping, not the rush, not the gifts, not the lights, not the ornaments, but Christ Jesus coming to us to give us joy and salvation.

What a challenge is to develop a contemplative attitude today and especially in this season. The world is bombing us with lots of advertisement and noise that we tend to end tired and confused. The Silent Night tends to be replaced by busy days and nights shopping and running from one store to another.

Jesus is inviting us to discover his presence and his coming with the kingdom contemplating what is around us, the world, nature, people, facts, and to discover in this ordinary presence the extraordinary that is ready to transform us.

Contemplation means to pay attention to the larger spiritual, cosmic, moral drama that is taking place. The scripture says in Titus 2: *For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12 training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and*

*godly, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

Begin with the end in mind. The end of the world may not be coming soon, but the end of our life/world could be here before we expect it. We need for this reason to live in the present time *lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for our Savior.* Contemplative life waiting the Lord means to live actively the Christian faith showing the world that we are waiting for the Lord doing God's work, preaching through our deeds, serving our neighbors and always focus on the person of Jesus and his example of holy living.

For this reason, wake up. Don't live carelessly, don't waste your time in consumerism or in stressful and destructive relationships. Tune in to God's purposes. Know that all the lights of the world are not permanent, only God's new creation will last forever.

Jesus clearly calls our attention when he says: *Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life.*

We are tempted to allow pessimism, negativity, and destructive thoughts to make room in our life and consume us with the *worries of this life.* But Jesus is inviting us to oppose all those destructive forces contemplating that his kingdom is coming with him to bring fullness and total redemption.

Because he is coming the fulfillment of the divine promises are now visible contemplating the creation and the blessings that God is always giving us. Because he is coming, we are not afraid of the storms, challenges and *worries of this life.*

I invite you for this reason to develop a contemplative attitude during this Advent Season. Try to focus on Jesus, find Jesus' presence and words, read the scriptures and meditate in the readings for Advent and Christmas. Rejoice in the message of salvation, liberation, healing, forgiveness, and fullness that God is sending you.

Contemplate the beauty of the world, the beauty of nature and find in the creation the marks of the creator, the love of the creator that is declaring that this creation was made for you, for your enjoyment, your security and your happiness.

Contemplate the miracles that God is always bringing into your life and the lives of others and see how Christ is always saving and protecting, guiding, and leading his flock to the promise land of his future coming.

Contemplate and find in your contemplation the strength to live *lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly*. Lives that are productive and ready to be a blessing to other lives. Be ready to manifest that this season is not commercials and shopping, but it is about redemption, love, and God's salvation coming to people that are living in need, in despair and in brokenness but that now in Jesus that is coming to us have the promise of eternal life and a blessed present-future.

Rejoice and be glad, our Lord is coming, and his kingdom is our future.

Amen.

*The assembly is seated.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY#250

*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

- 1 Blessed be the God of Israel  
who comes to set us free  
and raises up new hope for us:  
a Branch from David's tree.  
So have the prophets long declared  
that with a mighty arm  
God would turn back our enemies  
and all who wish us harm.
  
- 2 With promised mercy will God still  
the covenant recall,  
the oath once sworn to Abraham,  
from foes to save us all;  
that we might worship without fear  
and offer lives of praise,  
in holiness and righteousness  
to serve God all our days.
  
- 3 My child, as prophet of the Lord  
you will prepare the way,  
to tell God's people they are saved  
from sin's eternal sway.  
Then shall God's mercy from on high  
shine forth and never cease  
to drive away the gloom of death  
and lead us into peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*# 706 Refrain only*

- A In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.  
*A brief silence.*  
God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world. Open our hearts to recognize your face in all people and in all of creation. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- A God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. May we nurture what you have lovingly created.



God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities (*local, state, and national government officials may be named*). Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await births, deaths, divorces, new unions, new jobs, retirements, healing, and life transitions of every kind (*especially*).

God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters (*especially*), for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

**C Amen.**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C 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.**

P Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table.  
Feast at the banquet of hope and love.

### SENDING

P The God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait +.

**C Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is near.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## SENDING SONG #259

### *Fling Wide the Door*

- 1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;  
the King of glory comes in state;  
the Lord of lords and King of kings,  
the Savior of the world who brings  
his great salvation to the earth.  
  
So raise a shout of holy mirth  
and praise our God and Lord,  
Creator, Spirit, Word.
  
- 2 He is the rock of our belief,  
the heart of mercy's gentle self.  
His kingly crown is holiness;  
his scepter is his loveliness;  
he brings our sorrows to an end.  
Now gladly praise our king and friend,  
and worship him with song  
for saving us from wrong.
  
- 3 Oh, happy towns and blessed lands  
that live by their true king's commands.  
And blessed be the hearts he rules,  
the humble places where he dwells.  
He is the rightful Son of bliss  
who fills our lives and makes us his,  
creator of the world,  
our only strength for good.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943  
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## POSTLUDE

Organ solo/Naoko Okada

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## HYMNS FOR ADVENT SEASON

Sunday	Gathering Song	Hymn of the Day	Sending Song
Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup>	244	250	259
Dec. 5 <sup>th</sup>	239	249	264
Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	267	242	248
Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	251	266	253

**Kaye Prox Food Bank is currently in need of donations of:**

- Canned chicken (12 oz. cans)
- Canned soup (chunky style)
- Canned fruit (15 oz. cans, in juice or light syrup)
- Canned corn, vegetables (15 oz. cans)
- Pasta, tomato sauce

Thank you for your support of the food bank!



**LCOS HAPPENINGS – November 28, 2021**



**Serving LCOS**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jose Luis La Torre Cuadros  
 Deacon: Steve Smeach  
 Minister of Music: Naoko Okada  
 Bookkeeper: Nancy DeVries  
 Publications: Sara Anderson (*alaskatour99@aol.com*)

**Pastoral Care:** Angela Padin & Diana Meehan (November 28 – December 4, 2021)

**AV Team Schedule**

<b>Sunday</b>	
Pentecost 22 Oct. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Aubrey Paffenroth
Reformation Oct. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Pastor Dave Kruger
All Saints Nov. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Aubrey Paffenroth
Pentecost 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Pastor Dave Kruger
Christ the King Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Rick Padin
Thanksgiving Nov. 24 <sup>th</sup> 7 pm	Lynne O'Reilly
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, Nov. 28	Aubrey Paffenroth
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Dec. 5	Pastor Dave Kruger
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Dec. 13	Rick Padin
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, Dec. 19	Aubrey Paffenroth
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas, Dec. 26	Pastor Dave Kruger



### **MEMBERS**

Dotty Richardson, Don Richardson, Fraser Muir & family, Pastor Jose Luis, Cherri Krall, Shirley Scheig, Jeff Whitman, Karen Hangartner, Maysie Richters, Parsons family, Connie Watson, Heidi Richters, Elaine Barnes, Buck Orr, Eddie Forte & family, Sal & Linda Pusateri, Janet Thambiraj, Gail Smeach, Barbara Beauregard, Lorella Swain, Terrence Hood, Roy & Rita Blyden, Gwen Leimbach, Della Griscti & family, Doug Howze, Charlie & Susan McCoy, Louise Betron, Lynn Richardson, Pat Sohl, Joan Baun, Elizabeth Thomas, Brian & Jan Spaulding, Joe Vetrano, Tirza Ontiveros, Peggy Davidson, June Wasylina, Matt Baun, Ernie Largent, Michele Doleski, Rick Padin & family, Yolanda Jacobs & family, Kim Cross & family, the Major family, Julian Julius, Alice Rozell, Mid Brenner, the Groh family, Mike Watson, Steve Guenther, Jeannelle Gibson, Lisa Paffenroth & mother, Kelly Orr, and Vernon Kozemski.

### **RELATIVES**

Van Nyugen, Gage Richardson, Tim Harrison (Eddie Forte relative), Mia Padin, Christine Barry, Josephine Barry, Lisa Lanquedos, Charles Lanquedos, Danielle Vinca, Milton, Eric Lovelock, Royce Graves, Joan Moguel, Patricia Campbell, Elida Machado, Nicole Phelan, Carol DeBruin, Vickie Williams, Alicia Marshall, Jay & Sarah, Clarence Hansby, Marty & Janice Burik, Kristin Hamway & family, Cindy Brann, Wanda Wilson, Channon Cramer, Arlene Berge (Sara's grandmother), Amy Ashmore, Kaitlin Rodgers, Sue & Dave Brigadier, Jennifer & Arlyn Sieg, George Kucenic, Kenneth McCoy, Dorothy McCoy, Kenny & Kadence McCoy, Raymond Swain, Elizabeth Maynard, Kathy Caspio, Denmark Watson, Patrick McCoy, Richard Doleski, and Matt Doleski.

### **FRIENDS**

Paul Cimiluca, Ellen Campbell, Tom & Helen Ferrell, Ellen Campbell, Troy Miller, Irvin Lee, Jones family, Lawrence Dawson, Sabrina Belkas, Marty Herman, Louise Stewart, Hunter Pinke, AnnMarie DiCorte, Celeste Christine Colon, Celeste Victoria Colon, Daniel Contreras, Monica Reis, Erik Reis, Albert Maynard, Wes Hiller, Rosemary Kratz, Linsey Jenkins, Monica Philbert, Tyler Auld, Douglas Robb, and Alex Baxter.

### **MILITARY**

Staff Sargent Omar Ottley, Robert Ontiveros, Anthony Richardson, Jon Nygaard, Stephen Burnham, and all men and women that serve.

### **HOMEBOUND**

Gene & Sue Camp

## ***LCOS by the Numbers*** **Financial Giving and Gifts**

### **This Year at LCOS:**

Our Spending Plan for the 2021 calendar year calls for total expenditures of \$352,212 to support the mission and ministries of the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour.

### **This Month at LCOS:**

Our Monthly Need for November 2021 is:	<b>\$29,351.00</b>
Giving received to support LCOS Ministries through 10/31/21	<b>\$15,180.00</b>

### **Mortgage Reduction Fund**

The members of LCOS agreed in 2009 that each of us would do what we can, above our regular giving, to stay current with our church mortgage AND reduce the principal when possible. Please consider your ability to put monies aside to help meet our payments. Simply mark "Mortgage" and your name on an envelope, then place your gift in the offering plate. All monies received will be applied to the mortgage. Thank you!

<i>Fund Balance at September 30, 2021</i>	<b>\$ 219.00</b>
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*Please give your receipts from the Village Inn to Donna, Joe, or deposit them in the shoe box in the narthex.*

## **November Birthdays**

Lynne O'Reilly (1), James Krall (6) Pastor Dave Kruger (6),  
Charles McCoy (6), Kristi Saligame (9), and Brian Cross (15).





*Dear disciples: during this time of crisis, I invite you to pray with me daily these short prayers and read these Bible verses in solidarity with all the world and our fellow LCOS disciples. I will be saying these prayers daily at 10 am and 5 pm. You are invited to form a prayer group with your family at home or individually pray these prayers.*

*Pastor José Luis La Torre Cuadros.*

## **MORNING**

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin nor be overcome in adversity. In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

2 Chronicles 7, 14

*If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Pray a silent prayer for the world, your family and our church.

Heavenly Father. We pray in solidarity with our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. We pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. Loving God, console them and grant them peace. We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. Healing God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good. In Jesus' name.

Pray the Lord's Prayer.  
Amen.

## **EVENING**

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Psalm 91, 3-6

*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.  
You will not fear the terror of the night,*

*nor the arrow that flies by day,  
nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness.*

Pray a silent prayer for the world, your family and our church. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

## Kaye Prox Food Bank - Holidays 2021

- ◆ We plan to provide Christmas meal kits this year.
- ◆ We'll need "Holiday Helpers" (donors and volunteers), to help us gather the items and pack/distribute the kits.
- ◆ Donations received after church on Sunday, Thursdays 12-3, or Fridays 1-3.
- ◆ Volunteers are needed Wednesdays 10-12 or Thursdays 12-2 to organize/pack the kits, and Fridays 1-3:30 to distribute them. Please call Kristi at **813.394.4942** to get on the schedule, or e-mail us at [volunteerkayeproxfb@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerkayeproxfb@gmail.com).
- ◆ Thank you!

## December Holiday Calendar

<u>Donations needed</u>	<u>Kits Distributed</u>	<u>Food Bank Closed</u>
Weds. Dec 8	Fri. Dec 10 Fri. Dec 17	Fri. Dec 24

### Christmas meal kits:

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- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| - Large bags of stuffing or boxes of Stove-Top                      | - Canned Cream of Mushroom Soup |
| - Potatoes (instant or fresh)                                       | - Cans of French's Onions       |
| - Sweet potatoes/yams (canned or fresh)                             | - Gravy (jar or dry packet)     |
| - Ham (3-5 lb.), Whole Chicken, or pork roast                       | - Canned green beans            |
| - Dessert items (canned pineapple, jello boxes, cake mix, frosting) | - Festive napkins               |