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Worship Leaders

Pastor Pastor Pamela Stalheim Lane
Intern Pastor Vicar Karen Peterson
Music Director Ann Marie Skoglund-Anderson
Music Chancel Choir
Lector Chris Ipsen
Communion Assistant Sue Ferkingstad
Usher Rick Anderson
Sandy Hanneman
Altar Guild Mary Peloquin
Streaming Steve Ferkingstad
Dave Fernelius

Weekly Schedule

Every Sunday -online worship & printable bulletins
available at faithlilacway.org
(After the 9:30 service has streamed, there may be a slight delay)

Sunday, November 26th First Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 AM Sunday School
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:30 AM Treats & Talk

Monday, November 27th

- 7:00 PM Council Meeting (Budget)

Tuesday, November 28th


- 10:00am Staff Meeting
- 7:00 PM Book Club (Library)

Wednesday, November 29th

- 10:00 AM Contemplative Prayer
- 10:30 AM Bible Study
- 6:30 PM Midweek Advent Service
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir

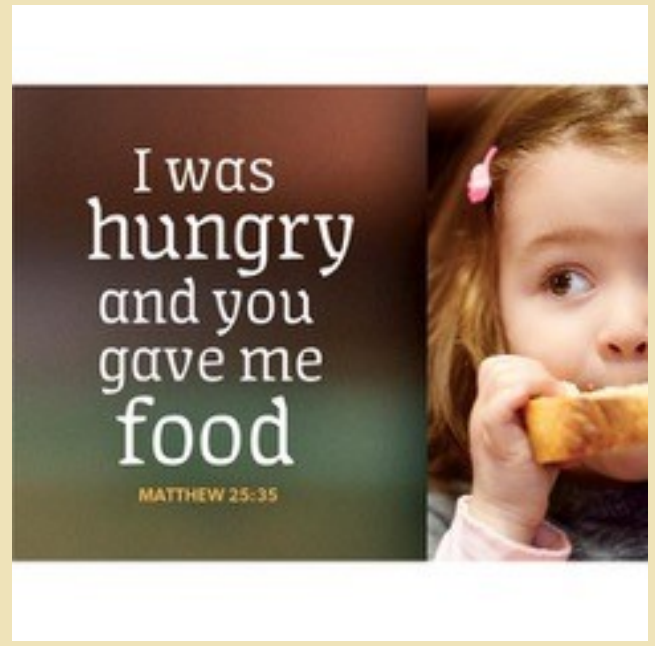
Sunday, December 3rd

- 8:30 AM Sunday School
- 9:30 AM Worship
- 10:30 AM Treats & Talk



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Sunday Worship



November 26, 2023 **First Sunday in Advent**

Welcome to Worship

Children are welcome in worship at FLW!

The congregational speaking parts are printed in bold.

All who believe are welcome to commune. You are invited to come forward to receive communion (wine is red and grape juice is white) and bread or a gluten free wafer - or you may pick up a communion kit (chalices filled with grape juice and gluten free wafers) and receive it in your pew.

Prelude

Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Gathering Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. ***Refrain***

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. ***Refrain***

O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. ***Refrain***

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance and be renewed. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Sending Song

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

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.

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.

The saints, who here in patience
their cross and sufferings 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.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!

Blessing

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit † remain upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in grace, grow in faith, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Wait for the Lord

ELW 262

(Sing twice)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

ELW 247

Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now, O God of love, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer

Generous God, **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.**

Announcements

Silence is kept for reflection.

We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression and that makes us complicit in systems of exploitation. Too often, we choose comfort over courage.

In our daily lives, too often, we choose busyness over thoughtfulness. We forget to stop in the stillness to ponder the blessings of your grace. We forget to be awed by the wonder of your love. We neglect to show grace to the “other.”

Forgive us. Renew us. Open us to the thin spaces of stillness, wonder, love and grace you so freely give. Amen.

In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God has prepared the way and blesses both you and your neighbor out of God’s great and abundant love. **Amen.**

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.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent Candle-Lighting Song Come and Light Our Hearts vs 1

Come Light Our Hearts

Sandra McCracken

For You, O Lord, our souls in still-ness wait. For You, O Lord, our
 souls in still-ness wait. Tri-ly our hope is in You. Tri-ly our hope is in You.
 1. O Lord of life, our on - ly hope, Your ra - diance shines on all who
 2. O joy a - bove all oth - er loves, in You we find more than e -
 look to You in the dark. Em-man - u - el come, come light our hearts.
 nough. We come as we are; O heal and re - store, come light our hearts.

Come Light Our Hearts words and music by Sandra McCracken © 2015 Integrity Worship Music; Paper News Publishing. All rights reserved. CCLI Licenses #11291555 (reprint) and #20480436 (streaming)

In the days of exile and uncertainty, the prophet Isaiah cried out to God, “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down!” In the midst of our own encounters with uncertainty and upheaval and our longing for deliverance, Jesus calls to us, “Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come” (Mark 13:35).

We wait as people surprised again and again by God who shakes us out of our complacency and wakes us up to the work of the kingdom all around us.

We light this candle as a sign of our shocking hope. May we stay awake to God’s activity in the world as we wait in expectation that even now God is with us, working to restore us to the fullness of life with God and one another. Amen.

Advent Candle-Lighting Song *Come and Light Our Hearts* vs 2

Prayer of the Day

Creator of the world, you are the potter, we are the clay, and you form us in your image. Shape our spirits by Christ's transforming power, that as one people we may live out your compassion and justice, whole and sound in the realm of your peace. Amen.

First Lesson Isaiah 64:1-9 (NRSV)

The first lesson is from Isaiah, the 64th chapter.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—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!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 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. 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. 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. 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.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

The 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.**

Communion Distribution

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness, **generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. As we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, may we feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our King and Shepherd. Amen.**

Offering Response

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

18

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -". The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your". The third system concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "voic - es, the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near." There are triplets in the piano accompaniment in the second and third systems.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (NRSV)

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NRSV)

The second lesson is from 1 Corinthians, the 1st chapter.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

What light of truth is offered here,

what covenant from heaven?

What hope of everlasting life,

what wondrous word is given?

This, this is Christ the king,

the sun come down from heaven.

Oh, see and hear and sing!

The Word of God is given!

What Feast of Love ELW 487 v. 2

Gospel Mark 13:24-37 (NRSV)

The holy Gospel according to Mark, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 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.

"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. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 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. 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Vicar Karen Peterson

Hymn of the Day *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying* ELW 436

Wake, awake, for night is flying,
the watchmen on the heights are crying;
awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices,
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake;
your lamps with gladness take!"
Alleluia!
Rise and prepare the feast to share;
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.

Zion hears the watchmen singing,
and all her heart with joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Her dear friend comes down, all glorious,

the strong in grace, in truth victorious:
her star is ris'n; her light is come.

Now come, O Blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.

Sing hosanna!

Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
and follow to the banquet hall.

Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!

Let saints and angels sing before you,
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Gates of pearl, twelve portals gleaming,
lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,
with angel choirs around your throne.
No eye has caught the light,
no ear the thund'ring might
of such glory.

There we will go: what joy we'll know!

There sweet delight will ever flow.

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.**

Prayers of the People

...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers...restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**

Offering

My Lord, What a Morning

arr. By Althouse