



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The 1st Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

10:30 Service of the Word

Today we begin our journey through the gospel of Matthew. We'll read it cover to cover; ending a little after Easter. Matthew begins at the beginning – with a genealogy of Jesus. At first this may seem like just a bunch of names. But when we look closer we'll discover lots of important things about our Lord and his coming.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn The King Shall Come
(For music turn to Hymn 260 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.**
2. **Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.**
3. **Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death,
Despite the rage of foes.**
4. **Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes,
And we shall see his face.**
5. **The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings.**

Text: John Bownlie, Music A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony; arr. Theodore A. Beck

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Gathering Dialog (John 1)

A: In the beginning was the Word,

C: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

A: In the Word was life,

C: and the life was the light of all people.

A: The Word became flesh and lived among us,
C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

† WORD †

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

A: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

C: Amen

As the first candle on the wreath is lit we sing:

Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel

(For music turn to Hymn 257 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Oh come, Oh 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.**

First Reading Genesis 15:1-6

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”

²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This

man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.”⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 105:1-10 (*read responsively*)

L: Give thanks, acclaim God’s name,
tell all that the Lord has done.

**C: Make music and sing
the Lord’s mighty wonders!**

L: Revel in God’s holy name,
delight in seeking the Lord.

**C: Look always for the power,
for the presence of God.**

L: Recount the signs and wonders,
the just decrees of God,

**C: you heirs of Abraham and Jacob,
the chosen of the Lord.**

L: The Lord is our God,
judge of all the earth,

**C: who remembers his covenant
spoken to a thousand generations:**

L: the agreement with Abraham,
the oath to Isaac,

**C: the firm decree to Jacob,
the unending promise to Israel.**

Gospel Acclamation (*Matthew 1:1*)

C: Alleluia. An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Matthew 1:1-17

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.² Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,³ and Judah the

father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, ⁴and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶and Jesse the father of King David. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, ⁷and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, ⁸and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, ⁹and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, ¹⁰and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, ¹¹and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. ¹²And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, ¹³and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, ¹⁴and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, ¹⁵and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, ¹⁶and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah. ¹⁷So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the My Lord, What a Morning

(For music turn to Hymn 438 in the Red Hymnal)

Refrain

**My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars be-gin to fall.**

- 1. You'll hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,**

**looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain**

2. **You'll hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain**

3. **You'll hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain**

Text and music: African American Spiritual

Apostles' Creed

A: Let us confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: 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 Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

A: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† THANKSGIVING †

Offering & Anthem

Emmanuel Soon Will Appear – by Nancy Price and Don Besig

Hymn of Thanksgiving *As the offering is brought forward:*

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

Lord, let my heart be good soil,

open to the seed of your Word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil,

where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away.

When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,

Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950. Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Thanksgiving Prayer

A: Let us pray: Savior of the nations, come.

C: Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

A: 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.**

† SENDING †

Blessing

P: May Christ, the Sun of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn
(For music turn to Hymn 242 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. 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 heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.**

2. **To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
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.**

3. **In darkest night his coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning 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.**

4. **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 ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.**

Text and music: Marty Haugen, Copyright 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

IT'S LIKE JESUS
IS THE **BEST** AND
HIGHEST BEING
IMAGINABLE!

HE HAS GREATER
AUTHORITY THAN YOU
CAN IMAGINE.

AND THEN HE
OFFERS HIS LIFE
FOR OURS.

UNIMAGINABLE!



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COLOSSIANS 1:11-20

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Tom and Lisa Kurlovitch
Acolyte	Ally Buch
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Tom Kurilovitch and Helen Crown
Coffee Hour	Cindy Swigart

Worship assistants for next Sunday, December 4, 2016

Greeters and Ushers	Rob and Laura Stroup
Acolyte	Sam Ehrlinger
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Sue Kaufmann and Linda Flood
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	Bruce Boncke and Art Fields
Coffee Hour	Marcia Zavacki

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