

The First Sunday in Advent



December 1, 2024
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN

In the midst of what often seems like a hopeless world, God is speaking. Advent is a time to listen, to be alert, to pay attention to what God is saying. But where--and in whom--do we listen for God's voice? This Advent season, as we await the arrival of God's Word incarnate, we listen again to the words of ancient prophets, who proclaim messages of justice, peace, and hope. And through these prophets, we are reminded of our own call to be prophetic witnesses to the Hope, named Jesus Christ, that is born among us.

Join us each Sunday morning in Advent as we explore the hope-filled words biblical prophets through story, song, and the liturgy of Holden [Morning] Prayer:

- **December 1** - Isaiah
- **December 8** - John the Baptist
- **December 15** - Prophetic Hope in Song: A Service of Lessons & Music
- **December 22** - Mary



The Worship, Music and Arts Committee invites you to honor loved ones and adorn the sanctuary for the Christmas service. **The donation is \$16 per plant or two for \$30.** Please make checks payable to Cross of Glory and note "memorial garden" on the memo line. Or you can also make a payment online by clicking the donate button on the website: www.crossofglory.us All order forms and payments need to be submitted to the office by December 8, 2024.

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION + FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose presence draws near to us in the evening and the morning, whose birth we await, who is alive among us now.

Amen.

We are called in this holy season to stay awake and to pay attention. We begin by tending to our own sins: those done and left undone, those unknown and unknown, those committed individually and those we are complicit in corporately.

Let us take a moment of silence now for reflection and repentance...

**** Silence is kept for confession ****

P: Holy God,

ALL: We confess that we are not awake for you.

Given by _____ Phone # _____

In memory of: _____ in celebration of: _____ in honor of: _____

Poinsettia color and quantity:

_____ Red

_____ White

_____ Marble (pink/white)

My total amount \$ _____

_____ payment is attached

_____ paid by credit card on CoG

Website—we invite you to add the processing fee to your order.

_____ I will pick up my poinsettia after 4pm service on Christmas Eve.

_____ I will pick up my poinsettia after service on December 29th.

_____ Please adorn the sanctuary for the Christmas season.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Coffee Hour** - All are welcome to a time of food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following worship!
- First Wednesday** - Kids and families, join us this Wed 12/4 for First Wednesday activities. Games begin at 5 pm, a community meal (at which all are welcome!) starts at 5:30, activities for kids start at 6, and confirmation for 6th-8th graders/parents is at 7 pm. Reach out to Chellie Sebald or Kris Simon with question
- Cookie Plates** - Mark your calendars for 12/15 when our annual cookie plates will be assembled after worship. The fifty year tradition continues for our homebound members and those who have had a life-altering event this past year. By baking, assembling, or delivering. Join in this amazing ministry of love.
- Stewardship**—Thanks to all who have submitted their 2025 financial pledge, a giving estimate that helps the church faithfully plan our budget for the year ahead. If you haven't yet submitted your pledge, we encourage you to do so by the end of this week. Thank you for your generosity!
- Prophetic Hope in Song**—A Service of Lessons & Music - Join us on Dec 15th for an Advent service, crafted by Mark Trease & Keith Williams, full of special music. Thanks in advance to all the CoG musicians who will be leading us in song and story!
- Christmas Worship** - Mark your calendars for 4 pm on Dec 24th, when we'll be celebrating the birth of Christ here at Cross of Glory. All neighbors, family, friends are warmly welcome!
- Winter Clothing Drive** - We're collecting winter clothing items to distribute to neighbors at WinterFest, a neighborhood gathering hosted by Cross of Glory and CAPI that will take place on Fri, Jan 10 from 5-7 pm. New or gently used winter hats, scarves, mittens, boots, coats can be donated at the drop-off bin near the Welcome Desk. AND...if you're interested in lending a hand at WinterFest (greeting neighbors, serving hot chocolate, etc.), let Pastor Ali know.
- Carol Sing-Along** - Stick around after worship on Dec 22nd...as part of our coffee fellowship hour that day, our worship staff will lead us in a Christmas carol sing-along in the fellowship hall.
- Pastoral Care & Visitation** - If you're in need of care, prayer, or conversation, reach out to the office to be connected with the pastor or our Care & Visitation Team. We also invite you to stop by our Community Prayer Wall located just outside the sanctuary.

**We cling to false comforts and put our faith in false gods.
We neglect the cries of our neighbors,
the groans of the earth,
the words of the prophets proclaiming another way.
Have mercy on us, O God,
And free us from our sin,
So that your justice and mercy and love
Would be born anew in us.
Amen.**

P: People of God, listen to the words of the prophets: Jesus is coming!
And in him † our sins are forgiven.
In him, we are free to be people of hope--
People who imagine and work to bring about
the world that You hope for.
The world you are being born into.

A: Thanks be to God. Amen.

PROCESSION OF LIGHT

Haugen

All children are invited to grab a light at the usher's table in the back of the sanctuary and join in the procession of light, which will end at the front of the sanctuary with the lighting of the Advent candle(s). Kids are invited to put their lights on the altar to help adorn the sanctuary in light--a reminder of God's presence among us.

Leader: Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All: The light no darkness can overcome;

L: Stay with us now, for it is morning;

A: and the day is just beginning;

L: let your light scatter the darkness,

A: and shine within your people here.

MUSIC

Joyous Light

Haugen

Verse 1

Joyous light of heavenly glory,
loving glow of God's own face,
you who sing creation's story,
shine on every land and race.

Now as morning breaks around us,
we shall raise our songs to you,
God of daybreak, God of shadows,
come and light our hearts anew.

Verse 2

In the stars that grace the darkness,
 in the blazing sun of dawn,
 in the light of peace and wisdom,
 we can hear your quiet song.
 Love that fills the night with wonder,
 love that warms the weary soul,
 Love that bursts all chains asunder,
 set us free and make us whole.

Verse 3

You who made the
 heaven's splendor,
 every dancing star of night,
 make us shine with gentle justice,
 let us each reflect your light.
 Mighty God of all creation,
 gentle Christ who lights our way,
 loving spirit of salvation,
 lead us on to endless day.

THANKSGIVING

Haugen

Leader: May God be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

L: Let us sing our thanks to God.

A: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

L: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe. From old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright. For your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

A: Amen.

MUSIC

PSALMODY

Haugen

This song draws on the words of Psalm 144. It begins in unison then becomes a round in 2 parts. Those seated on the pulpit side of the sanctuary join in on Part I. Those seated on the piano side join in on Part II (those online may sing either!).

Refrain (begins in unison):

Let my prayer rise up
 like incense before you,
 the lifting up of my hands
 as an offering to you.

Keep watch within me, God;
 deep in my heart
 may the light of your love
 be burning bright. (Refrain)

Part I & II (sung in round):

O God, I call to you,
 come to me now;
 O hear my voice when I cry to you.
 (Refrain)

All praise to the God of all,
 Creator of life;
 all praise be to Christ
 and the Spirit of love. (Refrain)

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
 Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams
 Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease
 Vocalists: Ruth Brateng, Becca Floyd,
 Johnetta Freeman, Erik Haugland,
 Laura McClanahan
 Guitar: Josh Smith, Steve Sebald
 Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Dawn
 Bailey, Bill Bailey

Greeters: Angie Dahl, Brenda Edstrom
 Reader: Judy Lewis
 Communion: Linda Knudsen, Judy
 Lewis, Bob Wertz
 Ushers: Cheryl Anderson, Don
 Halverson, Josh Day, Gayle Merritt
 Fellowship: Dave Hengel, Dan
 Jacobson
 Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory



Please join us in lifting up these brothers and sisters in prayer:

*Mavis Wold
 Norma Gilbertson
 Audrey Swanberg
 Jeannie Kuzmich*

*Eric Thompson & family
 Luella Hinnenkamp
 The Hengel Family*

*To be added or removed from the weekly prayer list, please contact the church office
 (office@crossofglory.us) or call 763-533-8602.*

*You are welcome to stop at our community prayer wall just outside the sanctuary to
 place a written prayer in the wall. Further instructions are at the prayer wall.*

BLESSING

Leader: Let us bless our God.

All: Praise and thanks to you.

L: May God, Creator, bless us and keep us, may Christ be ever light for our lives, may the Spirit of love be our guide and path, for all of our days.

A: Amen.

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Please rise as you're able and face the back doors as we prepare to go into the world with good courage. You're also invited to join hands with or put your hand on a neighbor near you as a reminder that we do not go forth alone.

**ALL: O God, you have called us to ventures
of which we cannot see the ending,
By paths as yet untrodden,
Through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage.
Not knowing where we go,
But only that your hand is leading us,
And your love supporting us,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen!**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Be prophets of God's hope.

A: We will! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

MUSIC CREDITS

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Silence for prayerful reflection

PRAYER

P: Let us pray together:

ALL: May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that together with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives. Amen.

Word

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain (Jennings)
(Erik Haugland, Kris Simon, Mark Trease)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

*** Please stand as you are able ***

P: The Gospel according to Matthew the twenty-fourth chapter.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

‘But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

and also the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our God,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHOIR ANTHEM O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

*O Come, the Lord's anointed, come, All hail to Thee, Thou David's son.
Thy kingdom here on earth to bring, Eternal praise to Thee we sing.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

MUSIC

This Is Christ's Body

#967

This is Christ's body,
broken and blest.
Feed us with mercy and love.
(with mercy and love.)

We are Christ's body,
broken and blest.
Heal us and make us one.

Pastor: Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: God, remember us in your love, and teach us to 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.

Sending

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY SONG

RECESSION OF LIGHT

*** Please rise as you are able ***

Kids are invited to get a light from the front altar and join in the recession of light, which will end at the back of the sanctuary--a reminder that we're called to take our lights out into the world, and a reminder that God's light goes with us.

HOLY COMMUNION

Come to the table, where God's gifts of grace and love are poured out for all, and where all are welcome. If you're worshipping onsite, you're invited to come forward when an usher cues your row. You'll be offered bread from the first server (gluten-free options available upon request), and wine from the second server (grape juice available upon request). If you'd like to take communion in your seat, simply cue an usher and we'd be glad to bring it to you.

L: The body of Christ is given for you.

The blood of Christ is shed for you.

All: Amen.

MUSIC

Verse 1

This is communion,
Your body broken.
The cup we're drinking
Is bittersweet.
The gift of friendship,
Truest salvation,
Borne of Your suffering
On Calvary.

Chorus 1

We remember the sacrifice of love.
We remember the blood
poured out for us.
We remember the only Son of God
Upon the cross.

Verse 2

From stained to spotless,
From wrath to favor,
Through You our Savior,
The work complete.
In full repentance
Led by Your kindness,
Partake of presence
As we receive.

Chorus 2

We remember the sacrifice of love.
We remember the blood
poured out for us.

Communion

We remember the only Son of God
Upon the cross.
We remember the price
You had to pay.
We remember the wounds
that made a way.
We remember the Lamb
for all was slain
Upon the cross.

Bridge 1

How can it be.
There is a table
For all who would come,
For all who would come.
Taste now and see.
There is a table
For all who would come,
For all who would come.

Bridge 2

Take of the bread,
Receive the cup,
For His mercy is enough
For the many and the one.
This is communion.
Take it as often as you will,
For His blood has power still
By His wounds we shall be healed.
This is communion.

Ligertwood, Ingram

*O come, Thou Sun of righteousness, and here on earth Thy people bless,
Thy kingdom come from shore to shore, Rule Thou our hearts forevermore.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

REFLECTION

*** Kids are invited to meet Kids Ministry Leaders in the back of the sanctuary for a time of storytelling. We'll return to the sanctuary following the sermon.***

MUSIC

Down By the Riverside

Traditional Spiritual

based on Isaiah 2:1-5

Verse 1

I'm gonna lay down my burden
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside,
Down by the riverside.
I'm gonna lay down my burden
Down by the riverside
And study war no more.

Chorus

I ain't gonna study war no more,
Ain't gonna study war no more,

Ain't gonna study war no more.
I ain't gonna study war no more,
Ain't gonna study war no more,
Ain't gonna study war no more.

Verse 2

I'm gonna lay down my sword and
shield... (Chorus)

Verse 3

I'm gonna walk in the light of
the Lord... (Chorus)

CONFESSION OF FAITH

*** Please stand as you are able ***

**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.**

Apostles Creed

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

P: Let's share a sign of God's peace with one another.

*** Please be seated ***

OFFERING

We give thanks for the ways your generous giving empowers us to share God's gift of life together in our congregation and wider community. You may share an offering in the plates as they're passed or scan the QR code here to make a secure, online gift. Thank you!



THE ANNUNCIATION + MAGNIFICAT

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 a servant of my God, I live to do your will."

Haugen

ALL: My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.

Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness

**evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart.
You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart, you have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.**

Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice, strong your love, As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Refrain (sung by all after each verse):

God of mercy, hold us in love.

Leaders:

In peace, in peace we pray to you
For peace and salvation, we pray to you
For peace between nations, peace between peoples
For we who are gathered to worship and praise you
For all of your servants who live out your gospel
For all those who govern that justice might guide them
For all those who labor in service to others
Grant weather that nourishes all of creation
Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from danger
For all the beloved who rest in your mercy
Help us, comfort us, all of our days.

ALL: Keep us, hold us, gracious God.

Table

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.