

Worship Service ~ December 1, 2024 9:00

First Sunday in Advent

VISION: Be the body of Christ:

welcoming all, inspired by God, and sent out to live our Faith.

MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is sponsored by Kay, Sue and Jolene Sunsten in honor of their parent's Lee & Shirley Sunsten's 85th and 86th birthdays.

PRELUDE *"The Little Drummer Boy"* arr. Harry Simone;
Faith Choir; Alan Ball, piano; Linda Burk, director

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

BAPTISM OF ELEANOR KRASKA

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN ELW #244 *REJOICE, REJOICE BELIEVERS* stz 1, 2, 4

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LITANY FOR ADVENT *based on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "God is in the Manger"*

L: Jesus stands at the door knocking.

C: He comes in the form of the beggar, or the child in ragged clothes, asking for help.

L: He confronts you in every person that you meet.

C: Christ will walk the earth as your neighbor, as the one through whom God calls you, speaks to you, makes demands on you.

L: That is great blessedness of the Advent message.

C: Christ is standing at the door; he lives in the form of a human being among us.

L: Do you want to close the door or open it?

C: It may strike us as strange to see Christ in such a near face, but those who withdraw from the serious reality of the Advent message cannot talk of the coming of Christ in their heart, either.

L: Christ is knocking.

C: He's knocking. Open the door to let Christ in.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ELW #242 *AWAKE! AWAKE AND GREET THE NEW MORN* stz 1, 4

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

C: 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.

PRAYER LAB MINUTE

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Creator of the Stars of Night"* ELW #245;
Faith Choir; Alan Ball, piano; Linda Burk, director

R: A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

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.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #172 *Halle, Halle, Halle-lujah*

R: A Gospel reading from the 21st chapter of Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 21:25-36

[Jesus said:] ²⁵"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. 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."

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

³⁴ “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, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ 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.”

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE Pastor John Klawiter

SONG OF THE DAY ~ OFFERING TIME *PREPARE THE WAY*



MUSICAL OFFERING *Winter Snow*

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OFFERTORY ELW #186 *CREATE IN ME*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: God in the manger,

C: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, The LORD look upon you with favor, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG ELW #715 *CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT* stz 1, 2, 5

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE on *Christ Be Our Light* (ELW 715) by David Lasky

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