

December 4, 2016

Second Sunday in Advent

FIRST READING. Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fawning together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

SECOND READING. Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL. Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Second Sunday in Advent



Music Showcase

December 4, 2016



Prelude

Announcements

Call to Worship

O Come Little Children

arr. Sondra Tucker

Hosanna Handbells

(The Choir members would like no applause until after the benediction)

*** Confession of Sin**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace. **Amen.**

L: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: God of all time,

C: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

L: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In ☩ Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen.

***Entrance Hymn**

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

ELW 582

***Apostolic Greeting**

***Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264 (v. 2)

God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you!

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Prayer

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION REQUESTS FOR 2017: The requests should be approved by the Church Council. The written request for funds should be sent to Orrie Leabo, Foundation President, before December 5th, 2016. This will help the Foundation Board to prepare for the Foundation's Annual Meeting. If you have any questions or comments please contact the board members. They are as follows: Chad Felstul, Vicki Hanneman, Leonard Hatzenbuhler, Tim Johnson, Orrie Leabo, Missy Mattson and Linda Mellon.

Invitation to the Women of First Lutheran Christmas Tea on Tuesday, Dec. 13th at 2:00 p.m. in the Pioneer Pointe Dining Room. Come and share the Christmas spirit with our Sarah and Hannah Circles!

Calling All Cookie Bakers! On Wednesday, December 14, First Lutheran Church will be delivering plates of holiday cookies to shut-ins and members unable to bake anymore. We need help from those of you who enjoy baking to spread Christmas joy in this way. Cookies should be dropped off in the church kitchen on Wednesday (Dec 14) by 9 am. You can also leave them in the church kitchen on Sunday (Dec. 11) and label them for "Cookie Plates for Special Friends". We are looking for additional drivers to help deliver the cookies later that morning. Previous drivers have found it to be a very rewarding experience. Please call the church office at 218-739-3348 if you can help in this way, or if you have questions. Together we can spread lots of Christmas love and cheer!

We are delighted to welcome the following new members who are joining this morning:

Lowell & Jan Wendel
Susan Murphy (Mouritsen)
Russell & Michelle, Dakotah, Joseph and Mashayla Mau

Interim Senior Pastor:	Erick Thompson
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Larson
Council President:	Elizabeth Abrahams
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Hosanna Handbells:	Linda Mellon
Adult Choir Director:	Erik Vigessaa
Lector:	8:30 – Ann Rotto 11- Missy Mattson
Communion Assistants:	8:30 – Robbie & Karen Olson 11- Debbie & Grace Opatz
Acolytes:	8:30 – Jacob Spangler, Emily Werner 11-Jacob & Luke Opatz
Ushers:	8:30- Kile & Tonya Bergren 11- Kris & Sara Koch, Bob Wynn
Lighting of Wreath:	8:30- Randy, Barb & Jace Vangrud & Ashley Shuck family
Greeters:	8:30 –Mark & Susan Hermes
PA Operators:	8:30 – Margaret Ness-Ludwig 11- Bud Mellon

Fellowship and Refreshments this morning will be served by the Membership Committee in celebration of our New Members who are received at the 8:30 service this morning. Please welcome them in the Narthex!

Sympathy to Barret & Harriet Wicklund and family on the death of Barret's mother, Nola, of Wilmar.

Radio Broadcast is sponsored by Leslie Flugstad & Diane Prischmann in memory of Inga Anderson.

Large Print Edition of the order of worship, the lessons, and the hymns for today are available. If you would like copies for worship, please ask an usher.

Join Us for the Beautiful Evening Vespers Service on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. during Advent. It's a wonderful play of darkness conquered by the light of Christ and includes some of the best music of the Christian tradition. Worship will be done by 7:40 p.m. **We will also have the 12:10 p.m. service with soup lunch to follow in the Narthex.**

Sunday School Christmas program will be Sunday December 18th at the **11 o'clock service ONLY**. There will be a regular worship service at 8:30. Full dress rehearsal will be next Sunday, December 11th in the Sanctuary.

College Student gift cards - we need your help to send a little cheer to our college students who are studying for finals! Please sign one of the cards we have laid out in the Narthex to share some love and encouragement with our college students during finals week. If you would like to contribute to send the students gift cards, please put a check in the offering plate marked "college student gift cards". We will mail them tomorrow, December 5th. Thank you!!!

The Christmas and Advent offering will be divided among the Mama Naomi Clinic in Tanzania and one of our local benevolences. Our Advent Coin Folders are available to be picked up at the info counter or in the rear of the sanctuary.

Our SUPER HERO SUNDAY SCHOOLERS are making Blessing Bags for people in need this Holiday season! Want to help? Please consider donating travel size items: Washcloths, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Soap, Lotion, Shampoo, Conditioner, Kleenex, Wipes. Our Sunday school team will begin putting the bags together soon and they will be donated to the Salvation Army! Thank you so much for your continued help in our community service projects! ~ Education committee

Christmas Giving Tree! Please take an ornament (or more!) from the trees, purchase the item listed on the ornament and return them to church, unwrapped, by Thursday, December 15. Deliveries will take place Friday, December 16th.

The First Lutheran church council will deliver Christmas Food Baskets to community members on the morning of Saturday, December 17th. If you or someone you know could benefit from a Christmas Food Basket, contact the church by Wednesday, December 7. Please include their name, number of children and ages (if applicable), phone number and address. If you are interested in helping pack the food baskets on the evening of Friday, December 18, please contact Rick at 205-6963.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

In today's reading the prophet describes the ideal ruler who will come in the future as a green shoot springing from a dead stump (David's royal line) of Jesse (David's father). Gifted by the Spirit, this messiah will seek justice for the poor, and the reign of this monarch will be experienced as paradise regained.

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

Anthem

Silent Night

Hosanna Handbells

arr. Sondra Tucker

Second Reading

Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Acclamation

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(Congregational response after Gospel is announced: **Glory to you, O Lord.**)

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

(Congregational response after Gospel is read: **Praise to you, O Christ.**)

Sermon

Pastor Erick

Anthem

O Magnum Mysterium

Adult Choir

Morten Lauridsen

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum
ut animalia viderent Dominum
natum, jacentum in praesepio!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum. Alleluia!

O great mystery,
and wondrous sacrament,
that animals should see the new-
born Lord, lying in their manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear the
Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

*Nicene Creed

ELW Page 104

*The Prayers

Reception of New Members (8:30)

*The PEACE is shared

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Offering Anthem

On Christmas Day In The Morning

arr. Tammy Waldrop

Hosanna Handbells

*Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
 it with- in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres- ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re- store to me the
 joy of your sal- va - tion, and up- hold me with your free Spir - it.

*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

Distribution of Holy Communion

Distribution Hymns

ELW 471, 472

Distribution Anthem

Breath of Heaven

arr. Roger Emerson

Adult Choir

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer & Benediction

Sending Anthem

O Holy Night

arr. René Clausen

Adult Choir

Sharing our Appreciation for our musicians

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Postlude

This Week at First Lutheran:

Today:	8:30 a.m.	Worship/Holy Communion/Music Showcase/New Members received
	9:45 a.m.	
	10:00 a.m.	
	11 a.m.	
Monday:	9:00 a.m.–3 p.m.	WELCA Love Days
	5:00 p.m.	
	5:00 p.m.	
Tuesday:	10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	1:00 p.m.	
Wed.:	9:30 a.m.	Al-Anon
	10:00 a.m.	
	10:30 a.m.	
	12:10 pm	
	3:45 p.m.	
	4:30-5:15 p.m.	
	5:30 p.m.	
	7:00 p.m.	
	7:45 p.m.	Advent Vespers – Required for Confirmation students
	7:45 p.m.	
Thurs.:	8:45 am	Morning Watch – Pr. Jennifer – KBRF AM 1250
Friday:	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY (See Wednesday)

Next Sunday, December 11:

8:30 a.m.	Worship/ Holy Communion
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Christmas Program practice in Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Butterflies (0-4 yr old & parents)
10 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
12-2 p.m.	Girl Scouts
5-7 p.m.	FLY 10-12 Hang Out