

Welcome to Advent Lutheran Church. "Serving ALL humanity to build a community that emulates Christ"

ELCA

Advent is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American (ELCA) and part of the Greater Milwaukee Synod.

We are a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) church, which means we welcome all people, regardless of age, race, sexual orientation or gender identity.



April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS GREETING FROM BISHOP ERICKSON OPENING LITANY

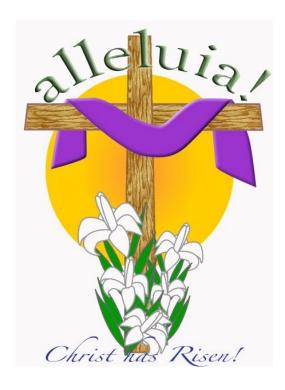
P: Christ is risen...

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: For your love and goodness, we give you thanks, O God. With joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the surprising grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.





Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939 Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

FIRST READING

1 John 1:1-2:2

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you

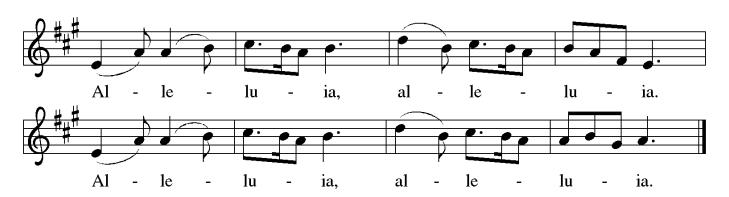
what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174



GOSPEL John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to

them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

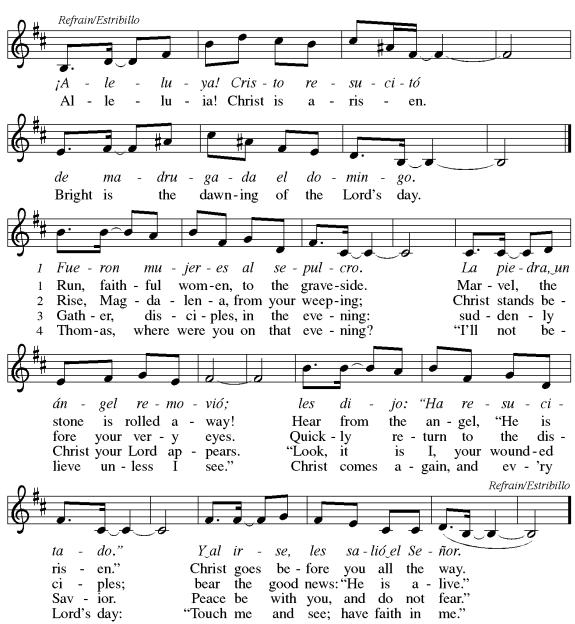
SERMON

Pastor Jennifer Arnold, Asst. to the Bishop

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen!"

ELW 375



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Heavenly Father, I pray for the people who are sad, lonely, people who are stuck in the darkness. Be with us. Show us hope. Light up our darkness like warm sunshine after a long winter. It has been a year of dark winter; bring us to spring. Great God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, you crafted a beautiful world filled with diversity and wonder. We pray today for the plants and animals of every ecosystem on this planet, from the coldest tundras to the tropical rainforests, from the smallest microorganisms to the tallest Redwoods, from the birds that fly in the sky to the fish that dwell in the deepest parts of the ocean. O God, grant us the wisdom to be good stewards of your creation, and the courage to be advocates for our environment. Great God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

God who gives us our daily bread. Make us mindful of all who work and labor to prepare food. Help us to continue to combat the inequalities of these systems. Great God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Loving God, we pray for all those who have experienced great loss in the last year, and have not been able to grieve those losses properly. A global pandemic has prevented many families and friends from being present in hospitals and care settings with their beloved as they breathed their last. Most funerals, rituals, and celebrations have been altered and limited over the last year, in ways that have deprived many from mourning and grieving properly within their traditions. God send your peace and your love in all forms to surround all those that are grieving and mourning. Great God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray today for those who long to be with family or loved ones, but are separated by physical distance, quarantine, or conflict. May your healing and comforting presence be with them, and may they know the love of the community of Christ. Great God of mercy, hear our prayer.

God of love and wonder, you enter your creation in beautiful and mysterious ways. Thank you for your presence and healing miracles, in healthcare workers, in medical researchers, in public servants, in scientific advancements. Grant us all wisdom and compassion in managing our own health-- physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual, as well as the health of others. Grant us peace and security amid the chaos and unfathomable loss of global pandemic. Grant us hearts that still can feel and eyes that still can weep. Great God of mercy,

hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

We now invite you to take a moment to prepare your offering at home. Sharing our blessings back to the Church is one way that we participate in the mission and ministry of the congregation. We are so grateful for all the ways you have been supporting Advent this year, and pray that you continue to do so. You may give online at adventchurch.org, or can mail/drop off your offering envelope to the church.

OFFERTORY SONG

"Just As I Am"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray.

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



BENEDICTION

P: May the God of surprising grace grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and love the risen Christ. And may the God of all life, and hope and peace bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia! Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God.

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Celtic Alleluia
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