

Advent

Lutheran Church



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

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.

RECONCILING in CHRIST



Plainly said

"ALL ARE WELCOME"

April 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL GREETING

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one with all your beloved children.
Cleanse our hearts. Shower us with life. To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, now and forever.
Amen.



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?”¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**²“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;
the Lord will hear me when I call.

**⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

R: The Lord does wonders for the faithful.

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.

**⁶Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

**⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure.**

R: The Lord does wonders for the faithful.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation. Both staves are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is a simple, joyful tune. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating the syllables are spread across the notes.

GOSPEL

Luke 34:36b-48

P: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he

said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Alexis Twito

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

A brief silence.

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your loving-kindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness, especially those on our prayer list and those we name in the silence of our hearts... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us so that we in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised, that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

“This is My Father’s World”

arr. Molly Ijames

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

CLOSING 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. Amen.

SENDING SONG: *“Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing” vs 4&5* **ELW 389**

Please see Gathering Hymn on pg 2 for music

BLESSING

P: May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Parent, + Child, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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"Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!"

Contributors: Brian Wren

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Celtic Alleluia

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"Children of the Heavenly Father!"

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