

BLC Worship Bulletin
Sunday Nov. 28, 2021
Advent 1
Esperar: Anticipate

Worship Leaders

Assisting Minister – Mike Bagby

Director of Worship and Music—Ruth Ann Poppen

Instrumentals: Steve Szalaj, pianist

Vocals:

AV – Braedon Larsen, Ben Huffman, Rob Huffman,
and Maria Bruno

Sound – Jim Bradshaw and Dan Nobbe

Online Greeter— Rob and Lori Nicholas

In-Person Greeter – Tony Jung

Ushers – Dian and Terry Micklevitz

Acolytes —

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly,
who fills the hungry with good things.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another,

we confess our sin before you.

We fail in believing that your good news is for us.

We falter in our call to tend your creation.

We find our sense of self in material wealth.

We fear those different from ourselves.

We forget that we are your children

and turn away from your love.

Forgive us, Blessed One,

and assure us again of your saving grace.

Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit,

✠ your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High,

inheritors of the eternal promise,

and recipients of divine mercy.

God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

**GATHERING SONG ELW 244 REJOICE, REJOICE,
BELIEVERS**



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch-ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride-groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night-ed sphere.



The bride-groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride-groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

GREETING & ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Esperar is a Spanish word meaning to anticipate, to wait, to hope or to expect.

We light these candles on our Advent Wreath, signifying the coming four weeks are a time to ANTICIPATE the birth of our Savior.

For hundreds of years, God promised to send a deliverer.

For hundreds of years, God's people waited for Jesus' coming, holding God's promises close to their hearts. We choose to WAIT, because God is faithful.

God's promises remain precious to us today because they are always fulfilled.

We come before God today somewhat tattered and torn by the disappointments of life; but we have HOPE, knowing that God is supporting us in ways we do not even realize.

God's promises do not fail.

This is a time to EXPECT God to break into our lives. We thank you, Christ, for being our stronghold and the salvation of our souls.

Amen.

(First candle is lit)

Song: We light the Advent candle (vs. 1)

1 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And wait for Christ to
 come. With hope, we trust the pro - mise That
 He will bring us home. Our hope is in our
 Sav - ior Who wins for us God's fav - or.
Refrain
 We wait with grow - ing light Till
 God makes all things right!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD

PSALM 25

REFRAIN:

To you, O Lord, I li....ft my soul. I trust you, God, to
ma...ke me whole. Show me, O Lord, the way.... to go;
Teach me your righteous pa..ths to know. In stead- fast love
remem...ber me. Your paths of goodness le.....t me see.

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²**O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.**

³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴**Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

⁶**Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast
love,
for they have been from of old.**

⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

⁸**Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

⁹He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees. (Refrain)

To you, O Lord, I li....ft my soul. I trust you, God, to
ma...ke me whole. Show me, O Lord, the way.... to go;
Refrain
Teach me your righteous pa..ths to know. In stead- fast love
remem...ber me. Your paths of goodness le.....t me see.

READING—I 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.

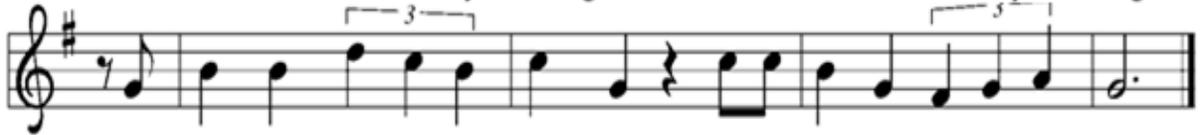
Word of God, word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 253—He Came Down vs. 1&2



1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:5-25

The holy gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. ⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

⁸Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. ¹⁰Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. ¹¹Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. ¹³But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. ¹⁴You will have joy and gladness, and

many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." ¹⁹The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

²¹Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. ²²When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. ²³When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

²⁴After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, ²⁵This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Paul Cannon

Hymn of the Day ELW 266 All Earth is Hopeful



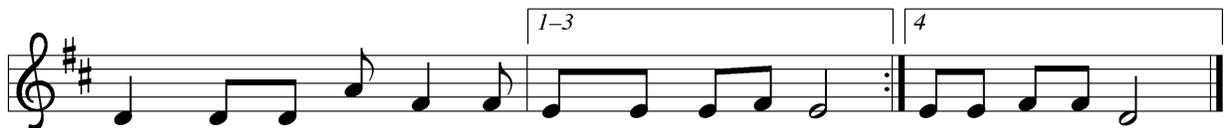
To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor
 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co_a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
 Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
 new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
 la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
 here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
 God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
 clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
 Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith according to the Apostles' Creed.

**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.**

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please respond "Your mercy is great" after I say, "Hear us, O God"

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

God of presence and peace, strengthen your church around the globe to proclaim the message of your love coming to the world.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mighty redwoods and microscopic plants, fields and city parks, the wind and the waves, be a healing balm to our wounded planet. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of equity and compassion, bring righteousness and goodness to all peoples of the earth. Give a heart of discernment and integrity to leaders in our communities. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of comfort and care, be present with those who watch and wait. Come to all who await healing, and life transitions of every kind, especially Hannah and those on our rehab and continued care list, and those we name aloud or in our hearts (*pause for people to say names*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of promises kept and new dreams awakened, shelter your people from destructive storms. We pray for those whose lives have been upended by natural disasters, for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, and other relief organizations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of companionship and community, we give you thanks for the saints who journeyed with us and now abide in you. Even in distress and uncertainty, make us confident that your promises endure forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN: ELW 254—COME, THOU LONG



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

OFFERING PRAYER

Offering Prayer

God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives
to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us
as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY—W&P 61

Refrain/Estribillo



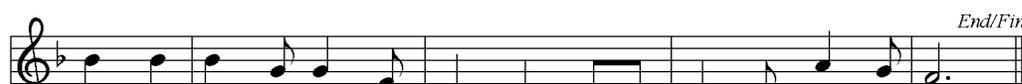
San-to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san-to, san - to_es nues - tro Dios,
Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,



Se - ñor de to - da la tie - rra. San-to, san - to_es nues - tro Dios.
God, the Lord of earth and heav - en. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God.



San-to, san - to, san - to, san - to, san-to, san - to_es nues - tro Dios,
Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God,



Se - ñor de to - da la his - to - ria. San-to, san - to_es nues - tro Dios.
God, the Lord of all of his - t'ry. Ho - ly, ho - ly is our God.

End/Fin

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Highest,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God.**

Eucharistic Words:

The body of Christ, give for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION MUSIC (Keyboard)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you
and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray,
Most High God,
you have come among us at this table.
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
Amen.

BLESSING

The God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.
Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW 239 HARK, THE GLAD SOUND



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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What's Happening This Week at Bethany:

Monday, November 29

9:00 am - 11:00 am - Good Samaritan

3:45 pm - Girl Scouts

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts

7:00 pm - Boy Scouts

Tuesday, November 30

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Sanctuary open for Meditation

6:30 pm - Cub Scouts

7:00 pm - Bethany Bookers

Wednesday, December 1

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Sanctuary open for Meditation

10:30 am - Journey Bible Study, in-person or on [Zoom](#)

6:00 pm - Christmas Program Rehearsal

7:00 pm - Midweek Advent Worship

Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 2

9:00 am - Piecers

7:00 pm - Bell Canto Ringers

7:30 pm - Theology on Tap at Crystal Lake Brewing

Friday, December 3

9:00-11:00 am - Good Samaritan

4:15 pm - Girl Scouts

4:30 pm - Girl Scouts

6:00 pm - Girl Scouts

Saturday, December 4

8:30 am - Men's Group

Sunday, December 5

9:00 am - Indoor Worship (also online)

9:00 am - In Person Sunday School

9:50 am - Coffee Hour

10:00 am - Christmas Program Rehearsal

10:30 am - Indoor In-person Worship

3:30 pm - IMPACT Youth