



"Bethlehem...

out of you will come...
one who will be
ruler over

Israel."

M I C A H 5 : 2 , N I V

Lutheran Church of Our Savior
Bethany, OK

Rev. Gary Rohwer, Pastor
Jack Bowman, Music Director/Organist
Janie Hlinicky, Elder on Duty

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Our Mission Statement

Empowered by the Spirit through Word and Sacrament, Lutheran Church of Our Savior will minister in word and action to our members and to the community, witnessing our faith in Christ who saved and gave new life to those who believe in Him.

As we observe worship inside the sanctuary today, please be respectful of the wishes and needs of others.

- * If you are sick, do not come.
- * You may take your temperature at home before coming. If you have a fever, stay home.
- * Masks are encouraged.
- * The church will be sanitized. Doors will be sanitized.

Entering the Church and Sanctuary

- ✝ Outside doors will be propped open wherever possible. Doors to the sanctuary will be propped open.
- ✝ Do not congregate as you enter the church. Do not congregate in the narthex as you come into the sanctuary. Make use of both doors into the sanctuary so that you keep your 6-foot distance from others.
- ✝ Every other pew will be roped off. Please sit in every other pew. Families may sit close together. Please sit 6 feet apart from others within your pew.

Exiting the Sanctuary

- ✝ At end of service, please wait for an usher to excuse your row. Back rows will be dismissed first. Please maintain your distancing from those ahead of you.
- ✝ Thank you for following these guidelines as much as possible.

First Sunday in Advent

A New Church Year
November 29, 2020

As We Gather

Old movie buffs may remember the 1967 movie, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. In the movie, Sidney Poitier, John Prentice, has fallen in love with and intends to marry the daughter of Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. In the movie, the Drayton's daughter brings her fiancé home for dinner to introduce him. The plot includes the element that there is a great deal of surprise on the part of the parents, as their daughter is white, and her fiancé is African-American. So, for the parents, there is a great deal of surprise which requires some adjustment on their part as they embrace the marriage.



Now, if we take the same basic idea, of someone coming over to be introduced to us, and apply this idea to advent, we can put ourselves in the shoes of those who first awaited the promised Messiah and met Him as “He came to town”. In this advent series, we will delve into the richness of the person of Jesus Christ and the surprises connected to His coming. We will be reminded of the many facets of the person of Jesus that were necessary for Him to become our Savior. Today, the First Sunday in Advent, we will focus on how this Powerful, Glorious, and Eternal One, Jesus, did not shy away from His Father's World, the world He helped to create. Instead, He completely loved our world, and fully embraced it. Advent means God entering His own world in the person of His Son.

Prelude

✠ Preparation ✠

Welcome

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Be - hold, the
 2 A right - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
 5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
 tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
 Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
 ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.
 Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

Tune and text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

We Welcome God's Coming

P We have entered the advent season. Believers in God from long ago, Adam and Eve, King David, Isaiah and the Prophets, were asked to wait for and welcome Gods coming. For people like Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary and Joseph, that coming was surprising and unexpected. It also was not without interruptions in their "normal" lives.

C The angels who made many of these announcements to them said they should get ready to welcome God's coming.

P That coming, they were told, would be in the form of the birth of a child.

C And we are here because of that Child, because of that Child's coming into our lives. We know His name is Jesus.

P But Holy Scripture makes clear that this Jesus, this child to be born, amazingly would come from eternity, from the time of Creation and before, for it is He who formed the world.

C Beautifully, we know the true identity of this child Jesus, the baby to be born. He is God's One and Only and Eternal Son.

P And so today, we call upon the name of Jesus, and worship Him as our Almighty Glorious, and Ever-Present God Who came 2,000 years ago to live among us.

C Amen.

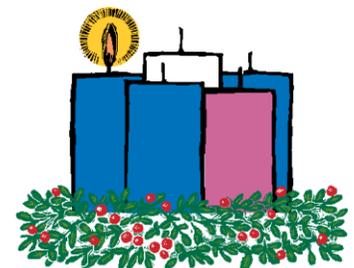
Lighting the Advent Candle

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C the light no darkness can overcome.

P Let Your light, Lord, scatter the darkness

C And become our true path of light.



✠ Word ✠

Old Testament Reading

(The Ruler to Be Born in Bethlehem)

Micah 5:1-5

Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops;
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the judge of Israel
on the cheek.

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the
LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵And he shall be their peace.
When the Assyrian comes into our land
and treads in our palaces,
then we will raise against him seven shepherds
and eight princes of men.

Epistle

(The Preeminence of Christ)

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵He (Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-10

(The Word Became Flesh)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.

Greeting Time

370 What Child Is This



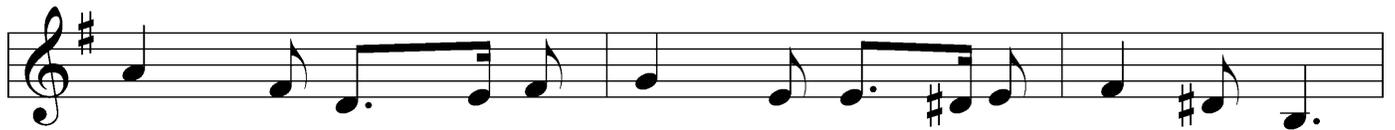
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Guess Who's Coming to Town? Part One

An Advent Creed

(This is a Trinitarian creed, drawing on advent themes of waiting, quiet and silence.)

**C We believe in the God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.
The one who is full of patience,
who is not afraid of silence,**

who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.
The one who is beyond bluster and flurry,
and who does not jostle for attention.
We believe in God the Son, Savior of creation,
who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,
who lived thirty years without headlines or hurry,
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,
whose silence overpowered their words,
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.
We believe in one God
who patiently waits for us,
and who longs for us to do the same.

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

392 God Loves Me Dearly



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -
2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and
3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -
4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did
5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.
deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.
of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.
ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.

Refrain



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

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Announcements

Postlude

Offering *(As You Exit)*

Acknowledgments

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This Week's Calendar
November 29, 2020

Sunday	9:00 A.M.	Early Worship
	10:15 A.M.	Late Worship
Monday	6:00 P.M.	Ladies Zoom Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	10:00 A.M.	Tuesdays with Friends
	6:30 P.M.	Evangelism Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 P.M.	Midweek Advent Worship
Thursday	6:30 P.M.	Elders Meeting
Friday	<i>Office Closed</i>	
	6:00 P.M.	Happy Birthday, Jesus! Party (Kids & Youth)
Saturday	5:30 P.M.	Community Outreach Dinner
Next Sunday	9:00 A.M.	Early Worship w/Lord's Supper
	10:15 A.M.	Late Worship w/Lord's Supper

Serving Next Week
December 6, 2020

Elder on Duty
Altar Care

Shirley Lodes
Patti Casey & Kay McDaniel



“God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” *1 Corinthians 1:9*

The faithfulness of God is our great comfort. He has made promises to us, and He will keep them. He is kind and loving toward us, and He will not break faith with us. This gives us the confidence to step out in faith, to leave fear behind. When it comes to following the Lord's commandments for our daily lives, we know His will is best for us because our God is faithful.



LWML Shoes News—Once again our shoes can step up to a global mission! LWML is collecting shoes for the world. Some will go directly to those treading barefoot and some will be recycled to make something new. Men's women's, children's—makes no difference! While we are currently limited in our travels, our shoes can represent our good will to people both near and far. Please secure pairs together by rubber bands and/or strings and drop them in the box marked “SHOES” in the activity room.

Attention Family of God—The ROC (Reaching Our City) ministry needs food for the hungry every week! In case you hadn't heard, Linda May orders or picks up 10,000 lbs. of food weekly! Two hundred families receive help from the ROC every week! So, how can we help? If we bring in one can of food (or more) each week, this will help! You may also donate money, as well as paper sacks and plastic bags which are used in filling up with supplies at the food bank. The ROC always needs toilet paper and paper towels, green beans, corn, tuna, and canned chicken! There is also a need for volunteers at the ROC to help fill carts with food for each family! It's a great way to meet other Christians who help support this ministry! Please call Linda May if you would like to volunteer sometime. Maybe we will see you there!



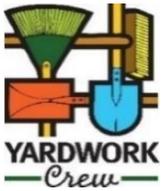
Christmas Candy Needed!!—Donations of wrapped Christmas Candy is requested for the next Community Dinner, as well as, for the next Community Kids Night. Both events scheduled for the first weekend in December. Donations can be placed in the marked tub in the Narthex. Contact Linda Melders or Shari Stepanek for questions.

Happy Birthday, Jesus! Party—Join us on Friday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m. for a special Christmas event for all kids and youth. Invite your friends as we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth during this season.

- Make and take home candy cane ornaments
- Learn how to share the Gospel using a Candy Cane
- Sing Christmas carols
- Go on a candy cane hunt
- Eat, drink, and be merry!



Virtual Christmas Program—Instead of the traditional Christmas program, the youth and kids will be preparing a virtual Christmas tree narrative. The children will learn about the origins the Christmas tree and how it relates to the Gospel. Each participant would be asked to video a short narrative to include in the program which will be combined into one program. This activity can be done at home or during the Jesus Celebration party planned on December 4th. If you would like to be a part of this special program, please contact Sandy Cox (405) 314-3797.



Yard Clean-Up—The youth are willing to come to “your” house and do yard work for *free* or for a love donation which goes to the youth fund. Contact Sandy Cox (405) 314-3797 or Shelly Michael (405) 570-3364.

Right Now Media, a streaming video library with more than 20,000 Bible studies and other Christian content for children, youth and adults—a Netflix of Christian content.



For a number of years now LCOS has had an annual subscription to this service and have used its videos for home and Sunday Bible studies, youth and adult ministry, etc. In addition our subscription provides for free usernames and passwords for LCOS members as well as friends of LCOS. Have you been making use of Right Now Media at home? If not, please check it out at www.rightnowmedia.org and then request a username and password from Delores so you can really explore their offerings. With COVID-19 forcing us to spend more time isolated in our homes, this may well be an excellent alternative to other streaming services. If you’ve been making use of this service, or after checking it out now, please let Dave Mueller (405) 863-2108 or Delores Wither (405) 495-1605 know if you feel this is a valuable service to continue to make available. Our annual subscription of \$879.89 is up for renewal at the end of this year and your feedback will be useful in deciding whether to renew or not.

Attendance Last Week		Treasurer’s Report (November 22, 2020)	
Early Worship Attendance	Ø	General Fund (Offerings)	\$2,745.25
Late Worship Attendance	Ø	Non-Budgeted Items	\$ 100.00
		Total Received	\$2,845.25



YOU KNOW, I WAS HOPING THAT A NEW CHURCH YEAR WOULD BRING A CHANGE OF TONE, BUT THIS READING IS AS APOCALYPTIC AS LAST WEEK’S WAS!



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

IT’S ADVENT, WE ARE PREPARING FOR THE RETURN OF CHRIST.



WHEN HE COMES... WILL WE BE ABLE TO HUG PEOPLE AGAIN?



MARK 13:24-37



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Prayers are kept on prayer list for four weeks. If you have a prayer request that you want prayed for during a Sunday worship service, please call or email the church office by Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Pray For Those Who Are Ill, Recovering Or In Need

Joe, son-in-law of Linda May diagnosed with cancer.

Randy, neighbor of Craig Cooper, recovering from COVID.

Bob Marshall, father of Kathy Warren, recovering from open heart surgery.

Nina Plischke, recovering from a car accident.

Gary Cole, fell and broke his arm.

Shirley Bellew, cousin of Craig Cooper, diagnosed with cancer.

Michaela Stephen's brother who is waiting on test results for COVID.

Lois May, mother of Sandy Cox, has COVID.

Donna Thompson, cousin of Delores Withers, hospitalized with COVID.

Steve Curtis, friend of Karen Bishop, hospitalized with COVID & Pneumonia.

Rex & Opal Rorabaugh, Rex positive for COVID and Opal awaiting test result.

Terry Bledsoe, friend of Delores Withers, death of her husband, Jim, from COVID and she is also at home with COVID.

Ken Wetwiska, nephew of Delores Withers, home with COVID.



Spiritual Guidance & Strength/Life Struggles

Pray for our shut-ins and homebound

Pray for those coping with cancer

Pray for Pastor Gary and LCOS leadership

Pray for our government officials and first responders

Pray for all families who have been affected with COVID-19

Pray for Those Serving Their Country

Randy Brooks IV

Kyle Freeman

Kyle Taylor

Jennifer Clark

Jonathan Krepel

Timothy Thomas

Hunter Conatser

Nathan Hiegel

Christopher Warren

We Celebrate This Week:

The Birthdays of:

Nov 30 Ashlyn Conatser

Paven DelPierre

Dec 1 Charles Mitchell

Dec 3 Mary Bird

The Anniversaries of:

No Known Anniversaries This Week



*Anniversaries
and Birthdays*