



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

*Worship Service of Holy Communion  
December 6, 2020*

*Trinity Lutheran Church  
812 N. Fifth St.  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho*

*Trinity is a Christ-centered community of believers, saved and  
enlightened by God's grace.  
We serve God by serving others.*

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude

### Confession and Forgiveness      *(Read Responsively)*

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

C    **Amen.**

P    God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C    **Amen.**

P    Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful God,

C    **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us,**

**renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Confession Song**

*Gather Us In*

Hymnal #532 - Instrumental

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

**\*Lighting of the Advent Candle**

P We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

C Amen.

*2 Candles are Lit*

**Hymn**                    *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*    Hymnal #240, verse 2  
(printed on p. 19 this bulletin)                    Duet - Gerry & Terry Fairchild

**\*Prayer of the Day**

P    Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C    Amen.

**The Word**

**First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11**

*In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, “Here is your God!”

<sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

<sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (Congregation will read verses in BOLD type.)**

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**<sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.**

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

**<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

**<sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.**

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## **Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a**

*This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.*

<sup>8</sup>Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? <sup>13</sup>But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to

be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; <sup>15a</sup>and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia Verse*

(Congregation will read)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

**\*Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8**

*The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight,’ ”



<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

- Pastor Dan Forsgren

**\*Hymn of the Day**      *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*      Hymnal #256  
(printed on p. 20 this bulletin)      Duet - Gerry & Terry Fairchild

**\*Confession of Faith**      *Apostles' Creed*

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **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 the People**

**A** God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

**A** Faithful God, you teach us to wait for you with faithfulness and patience. Sustain and support us in our doubts and questions. Nurture our faith as we discern and enact your mission. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**A** Loving God, you set the stars in the sky and breathe life into the earth. Renew the face of creation where it is in need of your healing touch. Mend the wounds of environmental damage and restore balance to

ecosystems so that all creation can declare your praise. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Steadfast God, you never tire of seeking justice. Where people suffer from discrimination, judgment, and injustice, speak words of truth and comfort. Lead us toward a world where faithfulness will sprout underfoot and righteousness rain down from above. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Tender God, you know sorrow and joy alike. We pray for those in our families and congregation who are not joyful in this holiday season. Comfort those who grieve, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are sick or struggling with depression, especially Lt. Col. Sarah Brehm, Linda Seitz, Diana Bumpus, Lee Ray, Michael Mundt, Ron McCray, Loretta Olson, Jim McDonnell, Marion Keating, Sally English, June Gittel, Delores Luttrupp, Mavis Fuchs, and Susan Kirkpatrick. Gather all people in your healing embrace. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

A Leading God, you ask us to make uneven ground smooth. Make even the disparities between your people. Sustain and support people with physical and intellectual disabilities. Accompany disability advocates who work for a world accessible to all. Teach us to celebrate the great diversity in our midst. Hear us, O God.

A For what else do the people of God celebrate and pray?

**C Your mercy is great.**

A For what else do the people of God celebrate and pray?

P Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

### **Sharing the Peace**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

### **Offering**

### **Musical Offering**

## Offering Prayer

P Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

C **Amen.**

## \*Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise**

## The Preface

P 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:

**C**            *Holy, Holy, Holy*    (Congregation will read)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### **Words of Institution**

**P**    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:

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling  
among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**C Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### The 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.**

### Invitation to Communion

Lamb of God

Hymnal p. 154 - Instrumental



## **The Lord's Supper**

*We celebrate together the Meal of Grace. The Lord is Host. We are the Guests. All are invited to the Table to feast in the promise of Jesus to be present in the bread and cup. Grape juice (light liquid) and gluten-free wafers are available by asking a server. The communion cups will be pre-filled and placed in trays with every other space left open to allow you to take without touching neighboring cups. Bread will be pre-cut. You will walk up to the altar steps to receive bread and wine, with no kneeling at the front. Communion servers will wear masks and gloves.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

*The body of Christ given for you  
The blood of Christ shed for you  
And you may respond: **Amen***

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

**P** Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## **Blessing**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

**\*Sending Hymn**    *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*                      Hymnal #254  
(printed on p. 21 this bulletin)    Duet - Gerry & Terry Fairchild

**\*Dismissal**

P    Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C    Thanks be to God.

**\*Postlude**

## Sing verse 2

### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.  
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.  
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.  
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune  
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## Comfort, Comfort Now My People

1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
 2 For the her-ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.  
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.

To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.  
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.  
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

## Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



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.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835