

December 6, 2020
9:30 Worship
2nd Sunday of Advent



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
"Participating in God's mission of life"
7104 - 39th Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53142

*We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation
(All are welcome here)*

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Phone 262-694-5050

Israel had strayed and was exiled. But God was not done with her yet. God promised the Holy Spirit, which would bring dreams and visions of a life far better than this.

The mission of God is life. Hope replaces despair. Faith replaces fear. Life replaces death. How are you participating in God's mission of life?

PRELUDE

♪ I Give You My Heart

(R. Morgan)

*This is my desire to honour You.
Lord, with all my heart I worship You.
All I have within me, I give you praise.
All that I adore is in You.*

*Lord, I give You my heart, I give You my soul.
I live for You alone.
Every breath that I take, every moment I'm awake,
Lord, have Your way in me.*

*This is my desire to honour You.
Lord, with all my heart I worship You.
All I have within me I give You praise.
All that I adore is in You.*

*Lord, I give You my heart, I give you my soul.
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Every breath that I take, every moment I'm awake,
Lord, have Your way in me.*

Lord, have Your way in me.

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📺 INFORMATIONAL ADVENT VIDEO

WELCOME

AM: Good morning. Welcome to Trinity, Kenosha in the name of the Lord. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America who welcomes and affirms all persons into the life of our faith community.

We extend a special welcome for those watching who are new to our faith community and invite you to explore our ministries by visiting our website at trinitykenosha.org. Our new member team leader, Joe Falduto, is eager to listen and answer your questions about our ministries. Please feel free to email him. Welcome to worship!

ADVENT INTRODUCTION

P: The season of Christmas begins on Christmas Eve and lasts for twelve days, ending on January 6. The time before Christmas is Advent, a season of preparation for Christmas. Christians prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the longing of the Jews for a Messiah. In Advent, we're reminded how much we ourselves also need a Savior, and we look forward to our Savior's second coming even as we prepare to celebrate his first coming at Christmas. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming" or "visit." In the season with this name, we keep in mind both "advents" of Christ: the first in Bethlehem and the second yet to come.

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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

AM: 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.



The first two candles are lit by Elizabeth & Cory Bausch and their children, Scarlett and Finley.

♪ *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah verse 2, Hymn#240*

*Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.*

GATHERING SONG

♪ *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn... Hymn #242*

*Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! The Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,
He opens wide the heav'nly door and lives now inside us forever.*

*To us, to all, in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a singing,
His humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing;
Music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving kindness,
The thunder of his anthems roll to shatter all hatred and blindness.*

*In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing,
As morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder,
The weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.*

*Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and
cheerless,
The rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and
fearless.*

*Love be our song and love our prayer and love our endless story;
May God fill ev'ry day we share and bring us at last into glory.*

FORGIVENESS AND CONFESSION

P: We gather in the name of God the Creator, God the Incarnate, and God the Advocate. Amen.

Trusting in the abundant mercy and everlasting love of the Holy Triune God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: ...You have come into our world to live among us, yet we often lose sight of this and seek to manufacture our own truth. We are afraid to share your word lest others judge or mock us. We ignore your wisdom because it isn't convenient. We allow ourselves to be defeated by despair. Forgive our negligence and breathe new life into our heavy hearts.

P: God knows our every weakness and sin yet loves us and affirms our lives. Hear this good news! Your sins are forgiven. Your past regrets and shame forgotten and your hope restored in the name of our incarnate savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

All: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE

♪Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing, vv. 1,2,6 Hymn 886

*Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and king, the triumphs of his grace!*

*My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.*

*To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

AM: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day. Steadfast God,

C: ...You never abandoned your people when they were at their lowest. Hold your promises before our eyes that they might shine brighter than any darkness which threatens to overcome us, for the sake of your son Jesus. Amen.

AM: Scriptures today will be read by Paula Lattergrass.

L: Through the proclaimed word of God, the holy Spirit moves to instill and deepen faith.

A reading from the gospel of Luke. (Luke 11:13)

¹³“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

L: A reading from the book of Joel. (Joel 2:12-29)

¹²Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God?

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly;

¹⁶ gather the people. sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

¹⁸Then the Lord became jealous for his land, and had pity on his people.

¹⁹ In response to his people the Lord said: I am sending you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a mockery among the nations. ²⁰ I will remove the northern army far from you, and drive it into a parched and desolate land, its front into the eastern sea, and its rear into the western sea; its stench and foul smell will rise up. Surely he has done great things! ²¹ Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for

the Lord has done great things! ²² Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before.

²⁴ The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.²⁵ I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.²⁶ You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.²⁷ You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁸ Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Create In Me A Clean Heart Hymn #186

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.*

SERMON -

Pastor Tom

Create In Me A Clean Heart Hymn #186

A moment of silence follows the sermon for the movement of the Holy Spirit.

HYMN OF THE DAY

♪ *Blessed Be the God of Israel* *Hymn 250*

*Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free
And raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.*

*With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall,
The oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all;
That we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise,
In holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.*

*My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way,
To tell God's people they are saved from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high shine forth and never cease
To drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.*

APOSTLES CREED

AM: Let us confess our faith together with the words of 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 THE CHURCH

AM: Please text your prayer requests to 287-8098.

AM: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: God of hope,....**"Hear our prayer"**

AM: In the season of tinsel and twinkling illusions, grant us a deeper joy that endures throughout these days, the burning promise of our coming savior. God of hope,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: In the spirit of St. Nicholas, use us to minister to those in need, providing for their lack without seeking recognition or thanks, but only the fulfillment of recognizing our connection with all of your children. God of hope,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: The earth is forgiving, even as its creator is, renewing what has been depleted and repairing what has been damaged. Make us partners in the recovery of this planet from the ravages of our abuse and neglect, and accept our repentance for all that we have done. God of hope,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: When we lose our visions, we are tempted to give in to despair. Rekindle your light within those who have given up, and work through us to reach out to the lonely, sad and discouraged. Send your healing spirit to all those who need it, especially... God of hope,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: With Nicholas, bishop of Myra, and all your faithful saints, we join our voices with the heavenly chorus praising the One who delivers and delights our hearts with the promise of eternal life. God of hope,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: *(Here other petitions are offered)* God of hope,

C: Hear our prayer.

AM: Our eyes await the fulfillment of all your promises, the answer to all our prayers: your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

C: Amen.

PEACE

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

AM: If you are gathered with friends or family, share a word of peace with one another.

OFFERING

AM: During this season of “together while apart” your financial gifts given to the glory of God are especially precious and needed.

There are three ways to give:

1. Mail a check to Trinity, 7104 - 39th Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53142
2. Text a dollar amount with dollar sign (i.e. \$20) to: 262-429-9785
3. Select the “Giving” button on our homepage,
www.trinitykenosha.org

AM: As you reflect on your giving, I invite you to watch a brief video featuring Chris Manke, Director for Outreach for Hope who preached here two weeks ago. Thank you, and thank God for you!

 *Video from Chris Manke, Director of Outreach for Hope*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

AM: Let us pray:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

C: Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HAPPENINGS - Pastor Tom

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pr. Tom will be available until 11:15 this morning for persons to drive to church to receive individually packaged communion kits. If transportation is not possible, you may use bread and wine or juice that you have available in your home during this time of physical distancing.

During this time, we will also be collecting winter outerwear as well as socks and long underwear for the ELCA Outreach Center and Grace Welcome Center.

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AM: As we pray together the Lord's Prayer, please use the version that best nurtures your faith.

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.

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

P: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

♪ *The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve* *Hymn #551*

*The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.*

*We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free;
Where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.*

*We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed
And, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.*

*Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.*

DISMISSAL

AM: Go. Live by faith. The advent of the Lord is near.

C: Thanks be to God.