

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 27, 2022

PRELUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach

Six Schübler Chorales

I. WACHET AUF, FUFT UNS DIE STIMME, S. 645

Please stand.

CONFESSION OF FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderful things.

C: Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Together, let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

A time of silence and reflection.

P: God of new beginnings,

C: We confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

P: People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder. You have put on Christ and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C: Amen.

THE ADVENT OF OUR GOD

LBW 22



1 The ad - vent of our God shall be our theme for prayer;
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son in - car - nate stoops to be,
3 Come, Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise to meet your low - ly king,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come a - gain,



come, let us meet him on the road and place for him pre - pare.
him - self the ser - vant's form puts on to set his peo - ple free.
nor let your faith - less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.
and all his scat - tered saints u - nite with him on high to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
let sin be put to flight;
no longer let the law hold sway,
but walk in freedom's light.

6 All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.
Music: FRANCONIA, Johann B. König, 1691–1758. adapt.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: In this season of waiting, of longing, and of new beginnings, as we look for God to come into our world, we are seeking light.

L: In our own lives. **C: We are seeking light.**

L: in our neighborhoods. **C: We are seeking light.**

L: In our families. **C: We are seeking light.**

L: In our work. **C: We are seeking light.**

L: In grace. **C: We are seeking light.**

L: In our nation. **C: We are seeking light.**

L: In our world. **C: We are seeking light.**

P: As we seek out, and wait for the Light of Christ, let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

C: Amen.

LIGHT ONE CANDLE *ELW 240 (verse 1 only)*



- 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
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Please be seated. Sunday School children meet teacher at Nave door.



A READING FROM ISAIAH 2:1-5

R: A reading from Isaiah the 2nd chapter.

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

A READING FROM ROMANS 13:11-14

R: A reading from Romans the 13th chapter.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

GOSPEL INTRODUCTION



THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 24:36-44

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 24th chapter.



P: [Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: A musical staff in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody consists of the following notes: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, a quarter note E4, and a quarter note D4. The lyrics 'Praise to you, O Christ.' are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. A double bar line is at the end of the staff.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

TODAY'S REFLECTION

Pastor C. J. Bailey

Please stand.

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Martin Luther pondered, “What is this” or “What does this mean?”

C: I believe that God has created me together with all that exists. God has given me and still preserves my body and soul: eyes, ears, and all limbs and senses; reason and all mental faculties.

L: In addition, God daily and abundantly provides shoes and clothing, food and drink, house and farm, spouse and children, fields, livestock, and all property; along with all the necessities and nourishment for this body and life.

C: God protects us against all danger and shields and preserves us from all evil. And all this is done out of pure, fatherly, and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness of mine at all!

P: For all of this we owe it to God to thank and praise, serve and obey him.

C: This is most certainly true.

P: Do you believe in God the Son?

C: 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.

P: Martin Luther pondered, “What is this” or “What does this mean?”

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father in eternity, and also a true human being, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned human being.

L: He has purchased and freed us from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

P: He has done all this in order that we may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

C: This is most certainly true.

P: Do you believe in God the Spirit?

C: 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.

P: Martin Luther pondered, “What is this” or “What does this mean?”

C: I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel.

L: The same Spirit has enlightened us with his gifts, made us holy and kept us in the true faith.

C: Just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith.

P: Daily in this Christian church the Holy Spirit abundantly forgives all sins—mine and those of all believers. On the last day the Holy Spirit will raise me and all the dead and will give to me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

C: This is most certainly true.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share the peace as you feel comfortable.

Please be seated

OFFERING AND MEDITATION *Emily Maxon Porter*

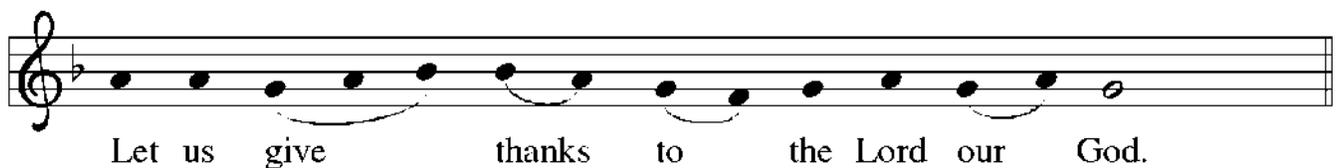
*MACH HOCH DIE TÜR DIE
Fling Wide the Door*

PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

L: Let us pray. Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



THE PROPER 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:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 to remember 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 to remember me.

Together, 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

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

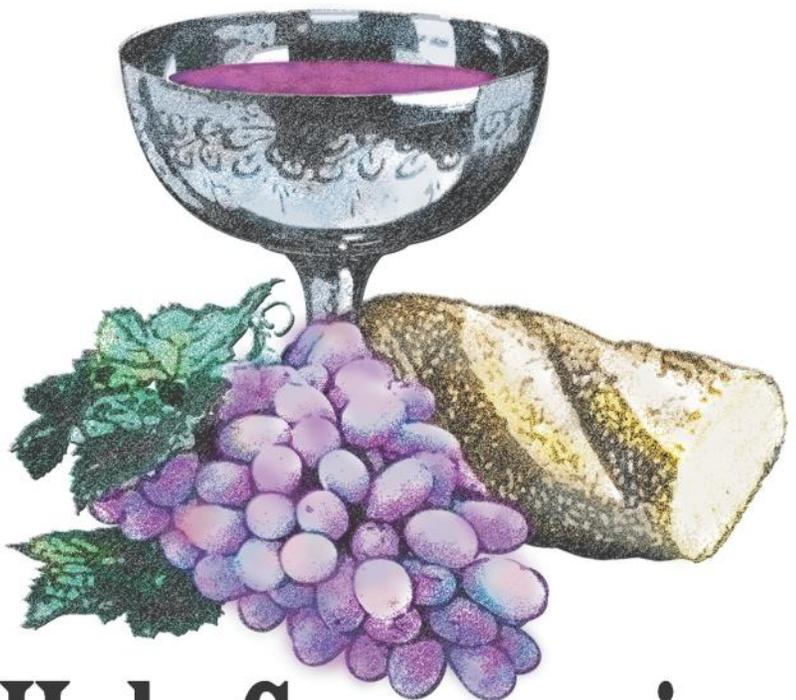
Please be seated.

Communion will be offered in two manners this morning:

You may come forward or you may commune in your pew.

If you are coming forward, we will commune one side of the congregation at a time. There will be stations to receive the bread and wine and a basket to deposit your communion cups.

If you are communing in your pew, please pick up a pre-packed communion kit as you enter the Nave. After the Lord's Prayer, Pastor will give a blessing so that we may commune together.



Holy Communion

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

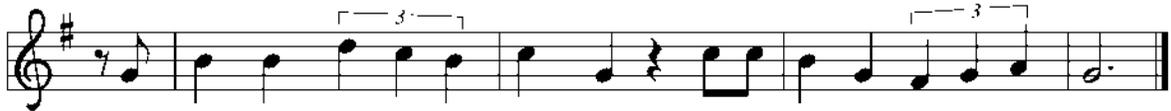
P: Be strong, Do not fear!
Here is your God who has come to save you!

HE CAME DOWN

ELW 253



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;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



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

Text: Cameroon traditional
Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Let us pray. Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.



Please stand.

Fling Wide the Door *ELW 259*



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weiszel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen. *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace!
Christ is near!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Helmut Walcha

*MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR DIE
Fling Wide the Door*

Today's Worship Leaders

Cantor:	Victor Welsch	Facebook Camera:	Wendy Bailey
Lector:	Rev. Philip Scherr	Slide Show Creator:	Pastor Bailey
Host:	Nominee Family	Slide Show Operator:	Andrew Bailey
Director of Music:	Curtis L. King	Worship Leader:	Pastor C.J. Bailey
		Lay Leader:	Jonathan Nominee

Many thanks to our faithful volunteers who help bring Sunday Worship Services to you on WTTF, Facebook Live and in person.

We are not able to offer all of these opportunities without the help of many people.



All are invited to attend the December 7th
Service of Healing at 6:30 pm.

THANK YOU

Words of gratitude and thanks are offered to many people, including:
All who donated to the Thanksgiving Baskets,
Those who planned, cooked, served and cleaned up following the
Annual Bountiful Feast,
Everyone who helped bedeck the church for the Advent Season.



The Mitten Tree is ready to be decorated with donations of hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and socks. Donations can be placed on the tree during the month of November.

Poinsettia envelopes are now available if you would like to dedicate a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone. A \$10 donation per poinsettia is suggested. Envelopes can be found in the lobby area or in the Church Office.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Pastor:
CLAYTON J. BAILEY

300 Melmore Street
Tiffin, Ohio
419-447-1323

firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com
firstlutherantiffin.com

Director of Music:
CURTIS L. KING

“God is among us!”
“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive,
reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”

Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003776.

Hymns reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, license #A-735756