

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saturday, November 27, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 28, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

4101 Washington Street NE

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Welcome to worship at St. Matthew! To friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to visitors, we extend it sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Redeemer. Come again!

We ask that all guests sign a yellow attendance card located in the pew rack, and then please hand the card to the pastor as you leave the worship service.

Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals and orders of service are available from the ushers.

If you have a prayer request, please write it out on one of the green prayer cards located in the pew rack, and then submit it to Pastor Hugo or the lay minister before the service begins. Other prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 763-788-9427.

Parents with small children are encouraged to sit near the front in order to better see and participate during the service. If you desire other facilities, a cry room is located in the back of the worship area and bathrooms with changing tables (including back-up supplies) and infant seats are located behind the worship area (two right turns as you pass the double doors out of the worship area – just past the water fountain).

Thank you for turning off all electronic equipment (cell phones, items that receive internet signal, etc.). These items interfere with our sound system.

+ CONNECT +

OPENING MEDLEY:

“While We are Waiting, Come”



1. While we are wait - ing, come; _____
2. Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come; _____
3. With pow'r and glo - ry, come; _____



While we are wait - ing, come. _____
Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come. _____
With pow'r and glo - ry, come. _____



Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,



("While We Are Waiting, Come" by Cason/Cloninger, copyright 1986 Word Music, CCLI License #921494.)

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" – Blue Hymnal #26

**The King shall come when morning dawns And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills And life to joy awakes.**

**Not as of old a little child, To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun That lights the morning sky.**

**Oh, brighter than the rising morn When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death Despite the rage of foes.**

**Oh, brighter than that glorious morn Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes And we shall see his face.**

**The King shall come when morning dawns And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly, King of kings.**

("The King Shall Come", setting copyright 1969 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: **But with You there is forgiveness; Therefore you are feared.**

L: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word this day, to call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in our thinking, speaking, and doing, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

C: **Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking and imploring His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.**

FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

RESPONSE:

L: The LORD says, "I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah."

C: **We thank You, O Lord!**

L: The LORD says, "My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up."

C: **We adore You, O Lord!**

L: The LORD says, "You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

C: We praise You, O Lord!

L: The LORD says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away."

C: We worship You, O Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH:

L: Let us pray.

C: O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CANDLELIGHTING SONG: "Light the Candle of HOPE Today"

(Advent 4) Light the can-dle of HOPE to-day, the Giv-er of hope will
come! _____ Wel-come the hope we long and wait for, but
on - ly Christ can give. _____ Flick-er and flame and
glow _ with hope, light up the world a - round you.
Flick-er and flame and glow _ with hope, light up the world a -
round _____ you. _____

("Light the Candle" by Jaroslav Vajda and Carl Schalk, copyright 1988 by Morning Star Music Publishers, OneLicense.Net #A-704112)

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray that we remain alert for the coming of the Lord. *(silence)* Jesus, Son of God,

C: You have promised to return at a time that no one knows. Keep us watchful in prayer and strong in faith as we wait for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GREETING TIME

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Peter 3:1-13

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.” For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly. But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter 21.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY: “The Advent of Our God” – Blue Hymnal #12

The advent of our God Shall be our theme for prayer;

Come, let us meet him on the road And place for him prepare.

**The everlasting Son Incarnate stoops to be,
Himself the servant's form puts on To set his people free.**

**Come, Zion's daughter, rise To meet your lowly king,
Nor let your faithless heart despise The peace he comes to bring.**

**As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And all his scattered saints unite With him on high to reign.**

**Before the dawning day Let sin be put to flight;
No longer let the law hold sway, But walk in freedom's light.**

**All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.**

("The Advent of Our God", setting copyright 1982 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)

MESSAGE – Pastor Keith Brutlag

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

10:00 a.m. only -

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

+ EMPOWER +

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: "Rejoice, the Lord is King" – Blue Hymnal #179

**Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore;
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, And triumph evermore:**

Refrain: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; Rejoice; again I say, Rejoice!

**Our Savior Jesus reigns, The God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains, He took his seat above: Refrain:**

**His kingdom cannot fail; He rules o'er earth and heav'n';
The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus giv'n: Refrain:**

**He sits at God's right hand Till all his foes submit
And bow to his command And fall beneath his feet: Refrain:**

+ + +

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

5:30 p.m. –

Lay Minister: Jim Geslin

10:00 a.m. -

Lay Minister: Lisa Neaderhiser

Ushers: Davis Team

Power Point: Caitlin Kyseth

Acolyte: Parker Kyseth

Lector: Marilyn Kirk