

First Sunday of Advent

Video Eucharist

November 28-29, 2020

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Manistee, Michigan

Stir up your power and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves; we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” *ELW 490*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descending
comes full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way;
as the Light of light, descending
from the realms of endless day,
comes, the pow'rs of hell to vanquish,
as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry:
“Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Glory to God . . .

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: Have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: Receive our prayer. Glory to God . . .

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen, amen. Glory to God . . .

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.
Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
O Lord | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?
You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.
Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
the one you have made so strong | for yourself.
And so will we never turn a- | way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
Restore us, O Lord | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
Glory to the Father, and | to the Son,
and to the | Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will | be forever.
A | - - men.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A reading from First Corinthians.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

The Rev. Fr. Jody Bambas

SONG OF THE DAY

“Nobody Like You” – *Bryan Fowler, Jake Espy, Jason Ingram*

You speak and waters crash upon the sand
The oceans push and pull at Your command
You hold the moon and stars within Your hands
And all with just a breath the world began

God there's nobody like You
God there's nobody like You
God and there will never be

When nothing we could do would be enough
From Heaven's highest place You reached for us
My sin and shame forever overcome
The grave was overwhelmed by perfect love

Your Name is greater than any name I know
Your Throne is higher than any other throne
You are the Author the Creator of it all
You stand alone You stand alone

There'll never be anyone like You
There'll never be anyone like You
There'll never be anyone like You God

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Each petition ends with:

Hear us, Lord,
Your mercy is great.

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

GREETING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY SONG

“Shine On Us” – Deborah D. Smith, Michael W. Smith, 1996

Lord let Your light
Light of Your face shine on us
Lord let Your light
Light of Your face shine on us
That we may be saved
That we may have life
To find our way in the darkest night
Let Your light shine on us

Lord let Your grace
Grace from Your hand fall on us
Lord let Your grace
Grace from Your hand fall on us
That we may be saved
That we may have life
To find our way in the darkest night
Let Your grace fall on us

Lord let Your love
Love with no end come over us
Lord let Your love
Love with no end come over us
That we may be saved
That we may have life
To find our way in the darkest night
Let Your love come over us
Let Your light shine on us

MEAL

PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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. 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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven 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, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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:

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

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.

Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Though separated by the trials of this world, we are gathered into one by the Holy Spirit. Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

BREAKING OF BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save; have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and grave; have mercy now, we pray**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN

“Soon and Very Soon” *ELW 439*

Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.