

Vasa Lutheran Church

Light to the Nations

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Nick Kees

Sunday, December 11, 2022

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: The third Sunday of Advent

Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow.
You bring water to parched ground and life out of death.
Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to flee away.
Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises.
Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand.

Amen.

HYMN RESPONSE: LIGHT ONE CANDLE TO WATCH FOR MESSIAH ELW 240

We will sing verses 1-3.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.
Blessed be God's name forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

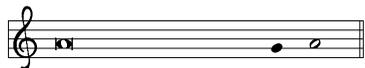
God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,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

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. **Amen.**

GREETING

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

KYRIE:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



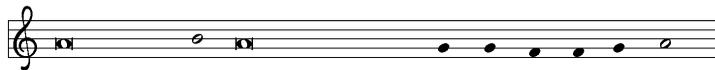
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of light, **you sent a savior into the world to bring justice and release to all who are in bondage. Shine this light upon us, and show us how to bring justice and peace to all who suffer. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE TEXT: Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. 2 He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; 3 a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. 4 He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. 5 Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: 6 I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, 7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. 8 I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. 9 See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

ELW 254

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY:

SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME

ELW 263

We will sing verses 1-4 and 6.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition will end with the words, "Lord, in your mercy,"
Please respond with **"hear our prayer."**

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

SENDING HYMN:

LET STREAMS OF LIVING JUSTICE

ELW 710

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of peace,
who creates all things and calls them good,
who makes us alive in Jesus,
and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, be a blessing to the world.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



**Scott Sorenson, Max Tilderquist, Irene Carpenter, Jessie Otto,
Paul Mikaelson.**

Worship Assistants Today

Usher: ***volunteer needed***

Reader: **Jeannette Anderson**

Hospitality: **Hanson's**

There will no worship assistants needed on December 18 due to the Children's Christmas Program

Parish Pulse:

December 4 & 7, 2022

Participating in Worship: **53**

+ **7** concurrent live-streams

Total Offerings: \$3,525.00

AT VASA THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 12

- Endowment Committee

Tuesday, December 13

- 9:30 Coffee & Conversation

Wednesday, December 14

- Community Dinner: Pick-Ups at 5:00pm; Dine-In at 5:30pm
- 5:30 Faith Formation (Christmas Program Rehearsal)
- 6:30 Wednesday Evening Worship + Everyday Bible Conversation

Sunday, December 18

- 8:30AM Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Program
- 10:30AM Children's Christmas Program with meal following. Vasa will supply the main Dish. Families with last names A-K are asked to bring a salad. Families with last names L-Z are asked to bring a dessert.



Due to possible inclement weather, The Community Dinner Team is requesting that all Food Shelf Donations be brought to the Lutheran Center by tomorrow (Monday) at 4:00pm. So, rather than bringing them to the Community Dinner on Wednesday, drop them off at the LC tomorrow! Thanks for your generosity.

THE GOODHUE COUNTY CHRISTMAS PROJECT gifts and gift-cards are due December 15th. Please drop them off at the Lutheran Center.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please tape the original gift tag back onto gift or card so that we can match it easily with the family.

Many, many thanks!

Parish Life Committee



Christmas and New Year's celebrations are almost upon us. Here are worship times and locations for the next few weeks:

Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, Dec. 18 at 10:30 in the Lutheran Center
Dress rehearsal begins at 8:30. Potluck lunch to follow.
There will be no live-streaming of this service.

Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, Dec. 24 at 2:00 and 5:00 in the church sanctuary.
The 5:00 service will be live-streamed.

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, Dec. 25 at 9:00 in the church sanctuary.

New Year's Day Worship

Sunday, Jan. 1 at 9:00 in the church sanctuary.

All services will include communion.



***We, the Vasa Congregation,
Called by God, commit to:
Worshipping together,
Growing in Faith,
Serving Others, and
Welcoming and Loving All.***

