

Vasa Lutheran Church

Our Spirit Waits in Hope

Pastor Maureen Hagen Accompanist – Anne Anderson

Sunday, November 26, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

ANNOUNCING THE DAY

Who are you awaiting, my friends?

We are awaiting the Lord, God's best, to come

The time is surely coming, when Christ will be with us.

**Our hope is in the Lord our God, Eternal Protector,
the Mighty One of Peace.**

Let us wait in Hope

The first Advent candle is lit.

HYMN RESPONSE:

LOST IN THE NIGHT

ELW 243

We will sing verse 1.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation. **Amen.**

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,

you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.

We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness

that make us reluctant to work against oppression.

We are complicit in systems of exploitation.

We choose comfort over courage.

We are careless with creation's bounty.

Look upon us with mercy.

Turn our hearts again to you.

Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways

for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

Hear these words of assurance:

God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.

In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all. **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.**

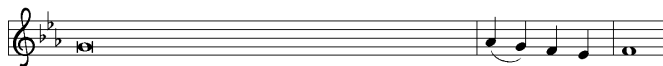
KYRIE:



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



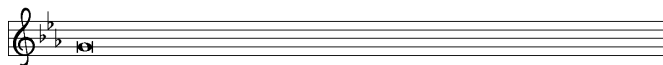
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



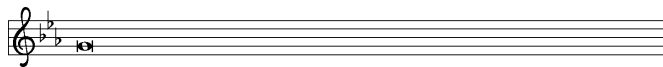
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN RESPONSE:

LOST IN THE NIGHT

ELW 243

We will sing verse 1.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: God of the promised Messiah, **as we wait for the fulfillment of your promise, we watch, we listen, and we open our hearts for your Word. Show us signs of your presence: a light in the darkness, a voice in the silence, and a stirring deep within us. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE TEXTS Jeremiah 33:14-18 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." 17 For thus says the LORD: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, 18 and the levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to make grain offerings, and to make sacrifices for all time.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

HARK, THE GLAD SOUND!

ELW 239

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: EACH WINTER AS THE YEAR GROWS OLDER **ELW 252**

CONFESSION OF FAITH using 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 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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF GOD

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

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share this peace with the people around us.

GENEROSITY MOMENT:

SENDING HYMN:

JESUS SHALL REIGN

ELW 434

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

L: The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit ☩ remain upon
you
now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.



Eileen Anderson, Irene
Carpenter, Paul Mikaelson, Jay
Mikaelson, Scott Sorenson,
Max Tilderquist, Anne
Rathman, Wendy Anderson,
Geri Lindholm, and Roger
Guttromson.

Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Bruce Tilderquist
Reader: Kathy Tilderquist
Hospitality: Sue Hedeon

Worship Assistants Next Week (December 3)

Usher: Roger Guttromson
Reader: Roger Guttromson
Hospitality: Arleen Stahnke
Comm. Asst: Geri Lindholm



The Offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary, and by the East Door. They are there to receive your offering as you enter for worship.



MUSIC FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023

LOST IN THE NIGHT

Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin.
Augsburg Fortress
Text: Nordic hymn; tr. Olav Lee, 1859-1943, alt.
Music: Finnish folk tune

ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL

Spanish text and tune © 1993 and tr. © 1995
Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP
Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR
97213.

HARK THE GLAD SOUND

Text: Phillip Doddridge, 1702-1751
Music: Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

EACH WINTER AS THE YEAR GROWS OLDER

Text and music © 1971 United Church Press
Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.
Music: Annabeth Gay, b. 1925

JESUS SHALL REIGN

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

**Start off the Advent
Season this afternoon at
3:00 with music and
seasonal readings—here in
the sanctuary. Austin
Ferguson will be playing
the organ. Dessert and
coffee to follow.**

**Children's Christmas
Program rehearsal** begins
next week (December 3)
during Sunday School.
9:00AM – Lutheran Center.

**Order your poinsettias by
December 5th!** Forms
available in the gathering
space—or in the church
office. Orders will be placed
December 6th.