

# Vasa Lutheran Church

*Our Spirit Waits for Joy*

Pastor Maureen Hagen    Accompanist – Anne Anderson

**Sunday, December 17, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

## **ANNOUNCING THE DAY**

Who are you anticipating?

**We are waiting for Jesus, in whom our joy grows.**

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

**When God appears, we will be comforted,  
able at last to put down our sorrows.**

**We will say: this is the day that Lord has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**How can we not wait for that kind of joy?**

*Four Advent candles are lit.*

**HYMN RESPONSE:**

**LOST IN THE NIGHT**

**ELW 243**

*We will sing verses 1-4.*

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

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**

**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.**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*We will receive communion by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:** Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**SENDING: AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN (V. 1,4) ELW 242**

## **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.

Parish Pulse:

**Dec. 10**

Participating in Worship: 48

+14 live-streams

Total Offerings:

\$762.54

Bible Study for *Women of All  
Ages and Stages* meets this  
Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>,  
from 9:30-11:00 at the  
Lutheran Center. All are  
welcome.

### **Worship Assistants Today:**

**Usher:** Marv Fredrickson

**Reader:** Christmas Program Students

**Hospitality:** Christmas Program Lunch

**Comm. Asst:** Confirmation Students

### **Worship Assistants Next Week (December 24 )**

**2:00 PM**

**Usher:** Ben Norman

**Reader:** Mo Hauck

**Comm. Asst:** BJ Norman

**Hospitality:** Kent Volz

**5:00PM**

**Usher:** Roger Guttromson

**Reader:** Mel Carlson

**Comm. Asst:** Barry Skog

**Hospitality:** Kent Volz



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