

# First Sunday of Advent

## Christiania Lutheran Church

### Sunday, November 29, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

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#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME AND STORY TIME

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord of Advent tells us to be watchful for his coming, keeping our lamps lighted, and our hearts clean. Therefore let us confess to the Lord.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God and Father of all, **we prepare our hearts for the coming of your Son, confessing our sins, confessing our attraction to a godless world that does not know Christ. Forgive our sins, cleanse our hearts, and keep us faithful for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of + Christ who came and will come again. **Amen.**

#### ADVENT RESPONSIVE LITANY

Advent is a time to wait.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for light in the darkness.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

#### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

This morning we light the first candle. The first candle reminds us that, as we wait upon the Lord, God's light never ceases to shine, God's will never ceases to unfold, and God's grace never ceases to be felt. As we begin the journey of Advent, may we learn to wait upon the Lord with hopeful expectation by celebrating all God has done and anticipating all he will do.

## ADVENT PRAYER

God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance and trust. Holding to the eternal promises revealed to us through the power of your Word, we ask that you remind us of your everlasting presence. **Amen.**

## READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (ICB)

*<sup>3</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I always thank my God for you because of the grace that God has given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup>In Jesus you have been blessed in every way, in all your speaking and in all your knowledge. <sup>6</sup>The truth about Christ has been proved in you. <sup>7</sup>So you have every gift from God while you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to come again. <sup>8</sup>Jesus will keep you strong until the end. He will keep you strong, so that there will be no wrong in you on the day our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful. He is the One who has called you to share life with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:24-37 (ICB)

*<sup>24</sup>“During the days after this trouble comes, ‘The sun will grow dark. And the moon will not give its light. <sup>25</sup>The stars will fall from the sky. And everything in the sky will be changed.’ <sup>26</sup>“Then people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels all around the earth. They will gather his chosen people from every part of the earth. <sup>28</sup>“The fig tree teaches us a lesson: When its branches become green and soft, and new leaves begin to grow, then you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also when you see all these things happening, then you will know that the time is near, ready to come. <sup>30</sup>I tell you the truth. All these things will happen while the people of this time are still living. <sup>31</sup>The whole world, earth and sky, will be destroyed, but the words I have said will never be destroyed. <sup>32</sup>“No one knows when that day or time will be. The Son and the angels in heaven don’t know. Only the Father knows. <sup>33</sup>Be careful! Always be ready! You don’t know when that time will be. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man who goes on a trip. He leaves his house and lets his servants take care of it. He gives each servant a special job to do. One servant has the work of guarding the door. The man tells this servant always to be watchful. This is what I am now telling you. <sup>35</sup>You must always be ready. You don’t know when the owner of the house will come back. He might come in the evening, or at midnight, or in the early morning, or when the sun rises. <sup>36</sup>He might come back quickly. If you are always ready, then he will not find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup>I tell you this, and I say this to everyone: ‘Be ready!’”*

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON - Senior Pastor Jon Rhodes

## PRESENTATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these people, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism. I present Amanda & Jeremy Knutson, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism

Let us pray. Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Amanda & Jeremy the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm their faith, guide their lives, empower them in their serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to everlasting life. **Amen.**

People of God, do you promise to support Amanda & Jeremy and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us rejoice with Amanda & Jeremy in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

**SHARING THE PEACE:** The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Traditional*)

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

## BLESSING

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, ✠ now and forever. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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