

## Advent One – December 3, 2023

Advent begins with a wake-up call!

**Thought:** The most surprising thing these texts proclaim is that the One who comes to dismantle the present order comes not as an enemy, but as God's own beloved.

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace



“A Little Child Shall Lead Them”

Music: Hark the Glad Sound ELW #239  
(insert)

<https://youtu.be/cWa9Raw9Kes>

by Plymouth-Church

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath – “Waiting”**

Vickie Rayburn

**Prayer in Unison:** *Dear God, through your Spirit you spoke to prophets, and the people prayed and waited for a Messiah to come.*

*Through your Spirit you spoke to Mary and Joseph, and they responded and waited for their child to be born.*

*Through your Spirit, speak to each of us that we may feel your presence and know your will in our Advent waiting this year. Amen.*

(hanging of the “Waiting” ornament)

## Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: 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,

**C: you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"** ELW #257 vss. 1&5

[https://youtu.be/7xtpJ4Q\\_Q-4](https://youtu.be/7xtpJ4Q_Q-4)

by Traditional Choir

## Prayer of the Day

L: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins.

**C: 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.**

## Preparing for the Word

L: We await the day of the Coming One of God.

**C: God is faithful.**

L: We ask for strength and endurance in waiting.

**C: God is powerful.**

L: We pray for wakefulness to the signs of God's realm among us.

**C: God is moving among us.**

### Old Testament reading – Isaiah 64:1-9

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered.*

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—<sup>2</sup>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!

<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. <sup>9</sup>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 80:1-7, 17-19**

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved*

<sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

<sup>2</sup>**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

<sup>3</sup>Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>4</sup>**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>17</sup>**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

<sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

<sup>19</sup>**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

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## Epistle reading – 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

*The people will be strengthened until the coming day of the Lord.*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>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**

## Holy Gospel – Mark 13:24-37

<https://youtu.be/6xXDGau2Pcg?si=Nh0QQ2TEsPCJYWP6>

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you O Lord.**

*Beware keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. Keep awake.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>“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. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>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. <sup>35</sup>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, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**Children of God Time**

[https://youtu.be/frZNtz88l0g?si=IK\\_12MfWbn6ttN-n](https://youtu.be/frZNtz88l0g?si=IK_12MfWbn6ttN-n)

**Message – “A Wake Up Call”**

[https://youtu.be/B8\\_ghLOBTus?si=3ZEdFZ3jwseYBqUy](https://youtu.be/B8_ghLOBTus?si=3ZEdFZ3jwseYBqUy)

**Hymn of the Day – “Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying”** ELW #436

<https://youtu.be/tOT2qxdABrA>

by Plymouth-Church

**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**

P: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*A brief silence.*

L: Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief (*especially*). Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L: You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence (*especially Francis Xavier, whom we commemorate today*). Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

**Amen.**

## Offering

### Offertory Prayer

L: You have stirred up your people, O God,

**C: by the power of your Holy Spirit.**

L: Empower us, we pray,

**C: To make your loving presence known.**

L: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**Offertory Music** – “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW #254

## The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: 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.**

## Preface

P: 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.



**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

## **Consecration**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## **Distribution**

**Communion Music** – Lillian Pinkston

**Post Communion Blessing** – Pastor

### **Post Communion Prayer**

L: Your power is evident in this meal, O Christ, for in it we receive the forgiveness of our sins.

**C: Your power is evident in this meal, O Christ, for in it you have truly come.**

L: Grant us, O Lord, a powerful love for you.

**C: Grant us, O Christ, a powerful love for one another.**

L: You are the Lord forevermore.

**C Amen.**

**Benediction from Numbers 6 – Pastor**

**Sending Hymn – “He Came Down” ELW #253**

<https://youtu.be/yPjdFi4wz24>  
by Concordia Choir

**Dismissal**

L: Waiting and renewing our hope in joy, we go to serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude – Lillian Pinkston**