



First English Lutheran Church

9 NW 3rd Street; Ortonville, MN 56278

Reverend Denise Fossen

Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director

Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania

Christ the King & Third Sunday of Advent – In Our Time



November 26, 2023

“Out of Time”

9:00 am

PREPARATION

Prelude

Bells

Welcome & Announcements

GATHERING

Greeting & Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Call to Worship

P: We gather today. **C: It is time to worship!**

P: We listen for God. **C: It is time to hear!**

P: We receive God's grace. **C: It is time to be loved!**

P: We leave in peace. **C: It is time to serve others!**

P: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

Prayer of Confession:

P: People of God, when we think that we have nowhere ...Holy one,

C: We have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God, is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts. Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done. Amen.

P: People of God, God's judgement... we will witness wonders. **C: Amen.**

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Adelman Family

Matthew 25:37-39

Advent Prayer L: Let us pray: Giver of all good things: You give us our days on this earth, but we determine how to use them. When we don't know what's right, when we fail to care for others, when we don't recognize you, reveal yourself to us. As we light another candle on this wreath, remind us

that you are the one who gives, even purpose for our days, and direction for our deeds. **C: Amen**

Candle Lighting Hymn

'Out of Time'

SONG SHEET

(See Attached Song Sheet for the Sheet Music)

1. Out of time, out of space, now we hope for better days, keeping watch when the waiting wears us down. Drawn out thin, pulled in tight, searching for the break of day, will we ever find you drawing near?

(Refrain): You come to us from just beyond, you call to us from out of time, you tear the heavens open wide, shining love across the star-lit sky.

2. Time flows fast; make it slow, give more time for all we love. Time grows long; turn our waiting to its end. In our years, in our days, God, your goodness is at work. Can it be you might be drawing near? (Refrain)

3. When the earth yearns for peace and the people cry for bread with a hunger that you alone can fill, we will pray, we will work, we will all prepare the way, and in time we find you drawing near. (Refrain)

By: Linnéa K. Clark & Emily Trubey-Weller. Copyright © Barn Geese Worship 2023.

Greeting

pg. 147

P: 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.**

Hymn of Praise

'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel' v. 3

#257

1. O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Text: Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite. Music: French processional, 15th Cent.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God of power and might, **C: your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

First Lesson: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

OT pg. 623

Psalms 95:1-7a

ELW Psalm 95

L: ¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

C: ² **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

L: ³ For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

C: ⁴ In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.

L: ⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

C: ⁶ Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

L: ^{7a} For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

NT pg. 148

Children's Message

Pastor Denise Fossen

Special Music

'Entertain the Angels'
Words & Music by Heather Sorenson

Sr. Choir

Gospel Acclamation

'Alleluia'

#175

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Music: "Alleluia 7," Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994, and the Taizé Community.
© 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc. agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave. Chicago, IL 60638.

Holy Gospel: 25:31-46

NT p. 22

P: The Holy Gospel according to... **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord... **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Denise Fossen

Hymn of the Day

'Jesus Shall Reign' vs. 1, 4, 5

#434

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the pris'ners leap to lose their chains, the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

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

Apostle's Creed

p. 105

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 for the People of God

P: Hurry, God. Hear our prayers **C: Tear the heavens and come down.**

MEAL

Offering Collection and Presentation

Offertory Hymn *'The King of Love My Shepherd Is'* vs. 1, 3, 6 #502

1. The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me, and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

6. And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877. Music: Irish Tune.

Offertory Prayer

P: Loving God, For the time we have, we say: **Thank you.**

P: For the gifts we offer, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: For the chance to help others, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: For the people whose lives will be better because of these gifts, we say:

C: Thank you.

P: For the ways you are changing the world, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help **C: Amen**

Lord's Prayer

p. 154

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.

SENDING

Benediction

P: God our Creator, who made the starlit sky, blesses you. Jesus our Redeemer, † who arrives at just the right time, blesses you. The Holy Spirit our Enlivener, who sparks hope for the hopeless, blesses you. You are blessed in the name of God, the Three in One. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal

P: As you leave this place, remember: whether you are waiting for a new beginning or just waiting for something to end, God is sustaining you. Keep alert; trust God; seek peace. **C: We Will! Thanks be to God.**

Sending Song

'How Great Thou Art' vs. 1, 3, 4

#856

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

(Refrain): **Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!**

3. But when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my burden gladly bearing he bled and died to take away my sin; *(Refrain)*

4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *(Refrain)*

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899-1989.

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Bells

Postlude

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Psalm 139:14. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

In other words, "created to be..."

If you have pastoral needs, please call Pastor Denise anytime at 763-516-2026.

Welcome to all visitors and guests! May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle. Please join us downstairs following worship for coffee and fellowship.

KDIO Radio Broadcast is sponsored in memory of my special friend Eileen Adolpson who passed away 12-12-12 from Kathy Stolpman. [Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week]. 2024 cards are in the box.

OFFERING UPDATE: Here are the expenses for October: \$21,335.74. Here is what we received: \$21,931.22. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at www.firstenglish.net.



If you want to receive a box of donation envelopes in 2025, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

May the God of all consolation be with Barb & Warren Wiese in the passing of his brother Marlyn on November 17th.

The students planning on attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans will be having a bake sale on Sunday, December 10th before and after church. If you would like to donate baked goods to their event, please contact Archer Dorry at 320-305-1839 or at archerhdorry@gmail.com.

The Giving Tree has the opportunity to give to **Katie's Kicks** and **Trojan Backpack**. Katie's Kicks is a non-profit program that gives new shoes to Ortonville area school students. All shoes are purchased new and kids are able to pick out their own pair. So far this year, the program has served 120 kids. Trojan Backpack sends home a weekly bag of food to help curb hunger in children over the weekend and holidays. There is no income requirements, it's confidential and no one will be turned away. Thank you for sharing in these and other local needs.

This advent season we are looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday advent services by reading scripture, a prayer, and lighting the candles. Please contact someone in the office if you would like to help us out.

The endowment committee will meet December 13th to disperse the remainder of funds. If you have any requests for them, please get them into the committee before that day.

God's Creations Fundraiser Calendars are in! They can be bought in the office or in the Narthex following church if you'd like one! They're \$8.00. You can bring cash, or if you'd like to pay by check, please write them out to FELC Youth.


CentraCare will be offering 3 Grief Support Groups for 7 weeks during the holiday season when the intensity of grief can be stronger. In Ortonville, the sessions will be at the Robert Ross Building (Golf room) at 450 Eastvold, from 3:00-4:30 pm 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, and 1/4. See posters for more info on registration.

Abiding Faith Free Lutheran Church will be hosting a Hymn Sing on Dec. 3rd at 7:00 pm. There will be a free-will offering taken and distributed between Big Stone County Food Shelf and Project Christmas. See the poster in the Narthex for more information.

It Only Takes a Spark Cancer Walk will be hosting a Bake Sale and Holiday Shopping Day at the Big Stone City, Community Center Sat. December 9th from 9 am – Noon. If anyone would like to donate baked goods to help them raise funds for cancer patients, please call or text 605-880-0385. See posters in the Narthex for more information.

Dish towels, cloths and scrubbers will be on sale here December 3rd with the proceeds benefiting the FELC Women's group.

The new Photo Directory is available online! If you haven't had your picture taken and would like to upload your own photo, 'how to' instructions are available next to the newsletters in the narthex.

Coffee Fellowship needs volunteers to continue. Please contact the office or sign-up in the fellowship hall if you're willing to help to prepare & serve coffee. If no one volunteers to serve, we won't have coffee fellowship that  Sunday.

The Bellingham Bloodmobile is set for Tuesday, December 12, 1-6 p.m. at the Bellingham Community Center. Regular or Power Red donation appointments can be made by calling Audrey Volkenant at (320)568-2385 or online at redcrossblood.org/Bellingham location or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor app. There will be a drawing for a Red Cross t-shirt quilt made by local quilters that day.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Carol Barrett; Marcus Hanson, Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Mary Lou Olson; Harris Selvig; Russ Thielke; Brandi Tweeter; Clara Zeek; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Ricky Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Adeline Burgess; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict, especially Alexander Johnson (Ev Johnson's grandson). If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office. 

REMINDER: Calendar and other important information is on our website at www.firstenglish.net and on the bulletin board (kiosk) in the narthex. The church office number is (320) 839-2527.

This Week's Ministry Assistants—November 26th

Greeters: Clara Zeek & Becky Parker

Acolytes: Owen & Cameron

Organist: Amy Adelman

Coffee Servers: Ellingsons & Schmeichels

Tech Desk: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

Lector: Becky Parker

Ushers: Tami Lundberg, Vern Nickolauson, Jackie & Mel Domine

Advent Volunteers: Doug & Tyler, Tenley, Ander, Alicia, & Savannah Adelman

Next Week's Ministry Assistants—December 3rd

Greeters: Glenn Henningson & Bryson Karels

Acolytes: James & Brianna

Organist: Lisa Berdan

Coffee Servers: Darin & Kristi Ehrenberg

Tech Desk: Liz Ketz & Marina Thomson

Lector: Kristi Ehrenberg

Ushers: Brent Zahrbock, Dean Strand, Vern Nickolauson, & Larry Dahle

Advent Volunteers: Michelle and Wiley Bauer

Weekly Calendar

Sun – 11/26

Christ the King (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)

9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – KDIO & FB Live

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship

10:20 am WAM Meeting

4:00 – 5:15 pm Cantata Practice

Mon – 11/27

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Tues – 11/28

8:30 am Day of Love

12:00 pm Executive Meeting

4:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at Fairway View

Wed – 11/29

9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast

3:30 pm Confirmation (7-8th grade)

4:30 pm Confirmation (9th grade)

5:30 pm Youth Group (7-12th grade)

& Channel 3 broadcast

7:00 pm Senior Choir (cantata practice)

Fri – 12/1

9:00 am Bulletins Printed

Sun – 12/3

9:00 am Worship – Communion – KDIO & FB Live

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship

& Sunday School (Christmas Practice)

10:30 am Fairway View Worship LIVE

4:00 – 5:30 pm Cantata Practice



November 26, 2023, Reign of Christ Sunday
Matthew 25:31-46

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Loving God, you live in each and everyone one of us. Help us to see you in the face of all people, that we might act in justice and mercy to all in need, in Jesus name. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

"Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.'" (Matthew 25:34-35)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus tells of when he comes in glory at the end of time, and he makes it clear that until that time, we should see his face in the faces of all human beings everywhere, and thus treat them as we would him.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What are some signs you observe in today's culture that indicate we are in need of Jesus' presence now more than ever? How would Jesus be received if he walked on the earth today?

In what ways have you betrayed Jesus? How could you make a change so that Jesus is first in your life?

For the littles: Would you rather feed a hungry person or visit someone who's sick? Why? Jesus loves when we do either or both!



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bring out the best in you. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Do one of the following this week: feed the hungry or thirsty, welcome a stranger, give clothing to those in need, visit someone who is sick or in prison. Notice how serving others affects you.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 7; Esther 2:1-18; 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Tuesday, Psalm 7; Esther 8:3-17; Revelation 19:1-9

Wednesday, Psalm 7; Ezekiel 33:7-20; John 5:19-40

Thursday, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 13:1-9; Revelation 14:6-13

Friday, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 14:1-9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

Saturday, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matthew 24:15-31