

I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dove of Peace Lutheran Church November 28, 2021 9:30 a.m.

Covid-19 Policy

Masks are required for worshipers, except when receiving communion.

Worship leaders may removed their masks to speak or to chant.

EXTRA PRECAUTIONS AREA

The northeast quadrant of the sanctuary is set aside for worshipers who are taking extra precautions to protect themselves and others.

- I. Masks must be worn.
- 2. A physical distance of at least six feet must be maintained.
- 3. The exchange of peace is made only with words, and only at a distance of at least six feet.

OFFERING

We are currently not passing the offering plates within the worship service, to avoid possible Covid transmission.

We have an offering plate on the table in the entrance foyer. Please place your offering there as you enter or leave the sanctuary.

Alternately, you can mail your check to our office. Or donate safely and securely online at

www.doveofpeacetucson.org/donate

Thank you for your generous support of our congregation and our work.

The First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Holy Communion Setting IV

WELCOME

Pastor Stephen Springer

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

PROLOGUE

Pamela Decker, pipe organ

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Johann Sebastian Bach's setting of "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" (Awake, for a Voice is Calling) is part of a set of six chorale preludes known as the Schübler chorales; it is the first work in the set. This compilation of six chorale-based works involves transcriptions of sections of some of Bach's church cantatas. The set was published in 1747 by Johann Georg Schübler. Bach surrounds the well-known "Wachet auf" tune with a distinctive, rather exuberant melodic motive that literally and figuratively "springs" about as tone painting in the case of the hymn text describing Zion's heart as it "with joy is springing." The effect is almost whimsical, although the piece is constructed with Bach's signature contrapuntal accomplishment and elegance. The hymn for this tune is today's hymn of the day. Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God. Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait, in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.



Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878 Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

***G**REETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name—"The Lord is our righteousness"—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

A reading from Jeremiah.

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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."

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

PSALMODY (ELW): Psalm 25:1-10

The refrain is first introduced by the leader, then repeated by the assembly.



Psalm 25:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* \otimes 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

'To [|] you, O Lord,

l lift [|] up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be ¹ put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph ¹ over me.

³Let none who look to you be ¹ put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame ¹ who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your [|] ways, O Lord,

and teach me your paths. **REFRAIN**

⁵Lead me in your ¹ truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all ¹ the day long.

⁶Remember, O Lord, your compas-¹ sion and love,

for they are from ¹ everlasting. **REFRAIN**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- $^{\rm l}$ ness, O Lord.

⁸You are gracious and up-¹ right, O Lord;

therefore you teach sinners ¹ in your way.

⁹You lead the low-¹ ly in justice

and teach the low- ¹ ly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness

to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. REFRAIN

SECOND READING: | Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

A reading from First Thessalonians.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 169

The assembly sings the acclamation before and after the verse of the day.



*GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

The Holy Gospel According to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

SERMON

Pastor Stephen Springer





Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

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*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes, "Lord in your, mercy," and the assembly responds, "Hear our prayer."

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

After the assembly and the presiding minster exchange the peace, you are welcome to share the peace with others. Please do not presume that shaking hands or other touch is suitable for everyone. There is no physical exchange of peace in the extra precautions (NE) quadrant of the sanctuary.

OFFERING

(In-person worshipers may place their contributions in the offering plate in the church foyer before or after worship.) www.doveofpeacetucson.org/donate

OFFERTORY

Alleluia Bell Choir

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus Setting by Ron Mallory (b.1973)

The plaintive Advent melody we know as JEFFERSON from our hymnal (ELW 308) is reimagined in this arrangement by American composer Ron Mallory with its pervasive use of syncopated accompaniment in the lower bells, creating a sense of longing and expectation.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

Amen.



*PREFACE (Advent)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,

through whom you will also make all things new

in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***PRAYER AT THE TABLE**

Prayer Three

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:



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.



***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

If you wish, you may join hands with members of your own household. Please do not join hands with others unless you have prior consent.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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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.
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***INVITATION TO THE MEAL**

"The gifts of God for the people of God." "Come; for all things are now ready." [Luke 14:17b, KJV] The assembly sits. Worshipers who wish to receive communion may approach the altar (see guidelines below)

Option One: Communion by intinction (as before Covid)

Worshipers may stand or kneel at the altar rail, and then may lower their mask to receive communion. The bread wafer will be placed in your hand by the pastor. When the chalice is offered, you may dip the tip of the wafer into the wine, and then consume the wafer.

Option Two: Packaged wafer

A sealed packet will be available at (or near) the baptismal font. It contains a host wafer which you may receive when you return to your seat.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Pamela Decker, pipe organ

Macht hoch die Tür Robert Bucklee Farlee (b. 1950)

Robert Buckley Farlee is Associate Pastor and Director of Music at Christ Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where his wife, Jane Buckley Farlee is the pastor at Trinity Lutheran congregation (ELCA). He and his wife were both ordained on July 13, 1980, in St. Louis, Missouri. He is a prolific composer of organ literature whose music is published by Morningstar, ECS Publishing, and Augsburg Fortress. His chorale prelude on "Macht hoch die Tür" (Fling Wide the Door) sets a gently flowing motive in parallel thirds against the hymn tune played in the pedal division on a 4-foot stop that causes the part performed by the feet to sound as the effective melody and not the lowest bass part. The hymn represented is today's sending hymn.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

COMMISSION

The Lord sends us forth into his world.

*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.



Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943

Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, Geistreiches Gesangbuch, 1704 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

Emma Lou Diemer completed her B.M. and M.M. degrees at Yale University, and her Ph.D. at the Eastman School of Music. In addition to her status as a highly respected composer of works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, instrumental soloists, organ, piano, and choral/vocal genres, she is an accomplished performer and has appeared as a concert organist in many renowned venues. Her work is represented by many publishers, and she has been the recipient of numerous awards. She has composed extensively for the organ. During the course of her long career (she is now 94 and retired, with emeritus status, from the University of California at Santa Barbara, where she was a professor for many years), she has employed many twentieth-century techniques and compositional styles in various periods of her development and activity as a composer. Her work on the famous tune "Wachet auf" is based on the use of colorful extended harmonies within a framework of Western classical musical tonality. The piece effectively evokes the text's "wake up call" described in the second verse of the hymn: "Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing. She wakes, she rises from her gloom." This is a contemporary setting of the same hymn that is featured in the Bach work in the position of today's prologue.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Your redemption is near. Thanks be to God.

Eric Holtan, assisting minister and cantor John Hoelter, lector Pamela Decker, organist

The flowers today are given by Tom and Ruth Ann Gribb to the glory of God, and in memory of Becky Sewell.

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary

The sole purpose of this meeting will be to adopt the 2022 mission spending plan (budget) and to elect members of the congregation council.

(We are not planning to have an online meeting, but if any member requests it, we will add an option using the Zoom platform.)

Dove of Peace Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

Rev. Stephen A. Springer, Pastor

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