

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:30 & 10:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICES
NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Livestreamed on Facebook at 8:30 AM: <https://facebook.com/rlcfw>



INTRODUCTION

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

PRELUDE

COMMUNITY NEWS

WORSHIP *(Please remain seated)*

Worship gathers us to stand with each other again in Easter's first light. We gather to offer to God the one thing God does not first give us, our praise. Here our story is made part of God's story and God's story is made our own.

Worship turns us toward God. Like the crowds following Jesus, we come to his feet to be found, fed, healed and raised, and we are given to stand in the Kingdom of God, heaven itself, receiving again God's free gifts and presence.

Worship turns us toward the world. Like the disciples before us, here we are made church, made the living body of Christ for the world as we learn again who we are, what we are worth, and what our lives are about.

It is the template and practice field for our everyday selves in the everyday world as children of God, disciples of Jesus, and servant citizens of the kingdom of God.

The Advent Wreath

One of the best-known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting in the midst of growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is clearly an image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes, the family gathers for prayer around the wreath.

PRAYER

D O God whose love is our everything, when fear overwhelms us and we cannot see a way out, speak to our fear with your love. Calm our troubled hearts and provide peace in our fearful world. In Jesus' name we pray.

C **Amen.**

D We begin the season of Advent with expectant and believing hearts.

C **We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**

D During Advent we confront the darkness that so often exists around us.

C **We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**

D During Advent we confront the doubt that so often resides within us.

C **We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**

D During Advent we confront the division that so often occurs between us.

C **We wait upon the Lord and place our hope in God's word.**

**CANDLE LIGHTING
CHOIR**

***"A Candle Shines"
Philip M Hayden***

A Candle shines in the window for love,
To melt our hearts of stone.
O come, o come, Emmanuel,
and make our hearts your home.

**Congregation joins:
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

RESPONSIVE LITANY

D Lord, I will sing of Your great Love forever; with my mouth will I make Your faithfulness known through all generations.

C **Oh Lord, You are our Love.**

D For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

C **Oh Lord, You are our Love.**

D Our hearts long for the Love that Your arrival will bring.

C **Oh Lord, You are our Love.**

D God's promises are true. We await the birth of Christ, the Promised Child, the Savior of the World. Love is coming soon!

C **Oh Lord, You are our Love.**

CHOIR

A Candle shines in the window for love,
To melt our hearts of stone.

PRAYER

C Gracious God, as we embark upon another Advent journey, we pray that being rooted and established in LOVE we may have the power to grasp how wide, how long, how high, and how deep is the LOVE of Christ. True LOVE was not only born at Christmas, but revealed for all to see. May we know this LOVE in our lives and share it with those around us. We pray this in Jesus's name. Amen.

Please stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

D Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.
C **Blessed be God's name forever.**
Amen.
D Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

D God of new beginnings,
C **we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us.
Amen.

D People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch, a living sign.
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.
You have put on † Christ,
and your sins have been washed away.
Rejoice in the way of the Lord.
C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- D** Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

CANTICLE - CHOIR

“Rejoice! Rejoice!”
Fanny Crosby
Aaron David Miller

Rejoice! Rejoice! Our King is coming!
The time will not be long, until we hail the radiant dawning, and lift up a glad new song.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Our King is coming!
The time will not be long until we hail the radiant dawning and lift up a new song.

Oh, wondrous day! Oh, glorious morning, when the Son of Man shall come!
With joy we wait our Savior’s returning. Oh wondrous day!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Our King is coming!
The time will not be long until we hail the radiant dawning, and lift up a glad new song.

Oh, wondrous day! Oh, glorious morning, when the Son of Man shall come!
With joy we wait our Savior’s returning. Oh wondrous day!
Oh, wondrous day!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Our King is coming!
The time will not be long, until we hail the radiant dawning, and lift up a glad new song.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Our King is coming!
The time will not be long, until we hail the radiant dawning, and lift up a glad new song.
And lift up a glad new song, lift up a glad new song.

READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

D Alleluia. Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

C **Alleluia.** (*Psalm 85:7*)

GOSPEL READING

D The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

D ...the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON - Spark Bible page # 164

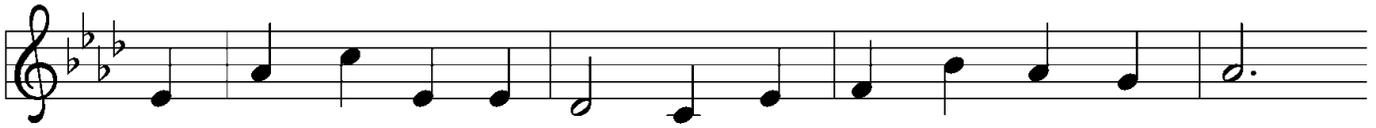
CHIMES

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
arr. by Kevin McChesney

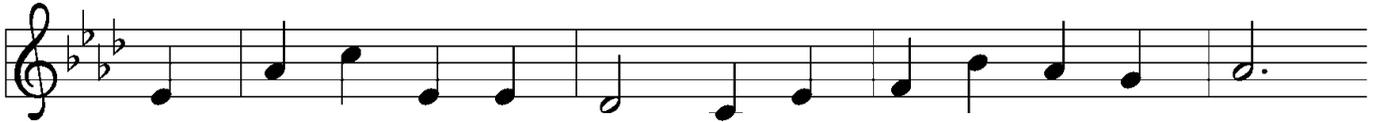
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #244

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG. Swedish folk tune

APOSTLES' CREED

D My brothers and sisters, having heard the Good News proclaimed, let us stand and confess our faith together using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 THE PEOPLE

**D As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that
yearns for new hope.**

A brief silence.

**A God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to
the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite
people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,**

C hear our prayer.

**A God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of
sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild
places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,**

C hear our prayer.

- A God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- A God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- A God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- A God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- D God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
- C Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- D The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.**

OFFERING

By our offering we become a part of a mission to be examples of God's acceptance and grace to all in a church that has shared these precious gifts with us in times of joy and sadness. By it we also offer God our most sincere and personal worship: taking some of what matters to us, we put our treasure where we want our hearts to be, and we give it as a giving back of our whole selves to the God who has given us everything and is our everything. So, let us continue our worship now by presenting God with our offerings of duty and delight.

TIME OF OFFERING

Options for giving:

Drop off after service in offering box

Mail in your offering

Use Bill Pay from your bank

Use Venmo. From the app search for us: @Resurrection-Lutheran



OFFERTORY #184

Musical notation for Offertory #184, consisting of five staves of music in a single system. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

D The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

D Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

D Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

D 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

D Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

C **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**

COMMUNION

Communion is the high point of worship for us. In this moment we step out trusting that God has indeed removed sin, bound up our brokenness, defeated death, conquered evil, and brought us so close that we can touch God and God can touch us with such priceless gifts as welcome, love, grace, mercy, deliverance, and endless life (*Communion options are shared*). My siblings, this is our Lord's table. All are welcome here.

A TIME FOR COMMUNION AND REFLECTION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

D My sisters and brothers, at this time and in this place you are in the very Kingdom of God, now may His Body and His Blood strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

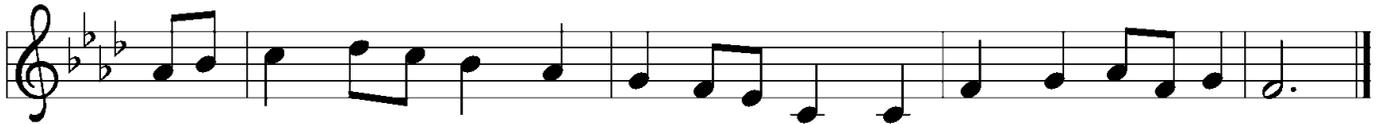
- D God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ☩ bless you now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #260

"The King Shall Come"



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

DISMISSAL

- D Go in peace.
- C **Being an example of God's acceptance and grace to all.**

POSTLUDE

PRAY FOR...

People of Ukraine
Jack Bigham
Eddie Carnahan
Lela & George Dunn
Tim Humbert
Ray Reffitt
Natilia, Diana
& Munsch Family
Bev Stonebraker
Cynthia Sherrill
Dema Ann Saxton
Brad Terry
Becky Schoepp
Ralph Rigby
Dale Hummer

Kari Cynar
Craig Steffen
Danny
Q
Mary Paonessa
Jan Hieber
Patt Hieber
Adrian Butler
Marilyn Feagler
Elaine Kirkendall
Carol Heingartner
Pam
Cheryl

Military Service:
Bailey Beyer
Jaidyn Beyer
Collin Monteith
Dakota Francis
Jon Popovich
Matthew Gephart
Alex Horvath

Homebound:
Cindy Dankert
Bob & Cheryl Goble
Norma Greener
Sarajane Hill
Joyce Svoboda

Family of Max Teders



Today's altar flowers are given by Mary Exner.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Service Times

Saturday, December 24th

6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Barn Service

9:00 PM - Traditional Christmas Eve Service



Would you like to help with a **CHRISTMAS CUP** of cheer for our Homebound Members? We have enough mugs/cups, but would like to add some specialty tea, coffee, small snacks, and soup mixes, along with Christmas cards. I will be putting the gifts together the week of Dec. 4. Maybe you would like to help deliver the packages December 11-17? Please use the Sign-Up Genius link to indicate what you would like to do. If you are unable to use this feature, feel free to contact me and I will let you know our current needs. Thank you! Kay Humbert CED@rlcfw.org or call the church office. Thank you! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4AA9A92FA3F85-2022>

THANK YOU to everyone that helped with items for the College Finals Care Packages! They are all put together and on the way to our college students!

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM The Lutheran Social Services Christmas Tree has been placed in the Narthex. The Tree is filled with Wal-Mart Gift Card requests along with items that are routinely needed for the families. No wrapping is needed for the items. Gift cards may be placed in the small box under the tree and items in the large box. ***All gift cards and items are due by the beginning of 2nd Service on December 4th.*** The families will shop using the gift cards with a Lutheran Social Service representative. The gift cards are used specifically for Christmas gifts and groceries.

The young adults are looking for individuals and businesses to donate items, baskets or gift certificates to their **ONLINE AUCTION** which will be held on December 9 and 10. Donations need to be dropped off at church by December 4th. All proceeds go towards the service trip to Belize next month. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Smith or Stephanie DeKoninck.

Kids' Club begins on Tuesdays 5PM - 7PM during Advent, beginning on Nov. 29. Be sure to register PreK - 5th Grade children here: <https://forms.gle/LG9JB291bxos5jCq6> Would you like to see what Kids' Club is all about? We could use some adult helpers! Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C4AA9A92FA3F85-rlcadvent>

ADVENT CALENDARS and Devotionals are now available in the Welcome Center, pick one up today!