

Celebrate



OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Connecting Faith to Everyday Life.

Contemporary Worship Service

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023 ♦ 8:45 A.M.



GATHERING

Pre-Service Song – “Out of Time,” Linnéa K. Clark, Emily Trubey-Weller

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 starlit 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*)

Gathering Song – “We Will Dance,” David Ruis

1. Sing a song of celebration
Lift up a shout of praise
For the bridegroom will come
The glorious One and oh
We will look on His face
We'll go to a much better place
2. Dance with all your might
Lift up your hands and clap for joy
For the time's drawing near
When He will appear
And oh we will stand by His side
A strong pure spotless bride

Chorus: Oh, we will dance on the streets that are golden
The glorious bride and the great Son of Man
From ev'ry tongue and tribe and nation
We'll join in the song of the Lamb

Bridge: Sing aloud for the time of rejoicing is near (*echo*)
The risen King our groom is soon to appear (*echo*)
The wedding feast to come is now near at last (*echo*)
Lift up your voice proclaim the coming Lamb (*echo*) (*chorus*)

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We gather today.

It is time to worship!

We listen for God

It is time to hear!

We receive God's grace.

It is time to be loved!

We leave in peace.

It is time to serve others!

As we wait for Jesus' arrival,
Emmanuel, God-with-us,

is already here in this time and place.

Song for Advent – “Out of Time,” Linnéa K. Clark, Emily Trubey-Weller

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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 starlit 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*)

Lighting the Advent Candle

Song for Advent – “Out of Time,” Linnéa K. Clark, Emily Trubey-Weller

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*)

Prayer of Confession

People of God,
when we think that we have nowhere left to turn,
we can always turn to God.
Whether we feel frozen
or are rushing with no time to rest,
whether it feels like life is happening to us too quickly
or like our lives will never change,
God is with us.
For God, there is always time for forgiveness.
We trust God, and we confess our sins together.

Holy One,

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.**

People of God,
God's judgment is certain
and God's forgiveness is lightning fast.
Hear this good news:
in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven.
Forgiveness gives us the courage we need.
Wherever we wait for God's time to come,
we will witness wonders.
Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Song of Praise – “Breathe,” Jonny Diaz, Jonathan Smith, and Tony Wood

1. Alarm clock screaming bare feet hit the floor,
It's off to the races everybody out the door
I'm feeling like I'm falling behind, it's a crazy life
Ninety miles an hour going fast as I can,
Trying to push a little harder trying to get the upper hand
So much to do in so little time, it's a crazy life
It's ready, set, go, it's another wild day
When the stress is on the rise in my heart I feel you say just

Chorus 1: Breathe, just breathe.
Come and rest at my feet.
And be, just be
Chaos calls, but all you really need is to just breathe.

2. Third cup of joe just to get me through the day
Wanna make the most of time but I feel it slip away
I wonder if there's something more to this crazy life
I'm busy, busy, busy, and it's no surprise to see
That I only have time for me, me, me
There's gotta be something more to this crazy life.
I'm hanging on tight to another wild day;
When it starts to fall apart in my heart I hear you say just (*chorus*)

Bridge: Take it in, fill your lungs,
The peace of God that overcomes.
Just breathe, just breathe
let your weary spirit rest,
Lay down what's good and find what's best
Just breathe, just breathe (*chorus*)

WORD

“Keep Your Lamps,” *traditional spiritual, OSL Sunday School Students*

Kidtalk

Reading – 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

Gospel – Matthew 25:1–13

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Song of the Day – “Jesus Is Coming Back,” Colby Wedgeworth,
Jordan Feliz, and Paul Duncan

1. Have you ever thought
That the world has kinda lost its way
Crazy as it seems yeah I know it's gonna be okay
It doesn't scare me it's temporary
There's something better we got forever
And it won't be long
'Cause we know our help is on the way

Chorus: So keep your head up
Jesus is coming back Jesus is coming back
No, don't you give up
Jesus is coming back Jesus is coming back
And when the world gets complicated
We're gonna keep on celebrating
'Cause we know
Jesus is coming back Jesus is coming back

2. We gotta stay awake
'Cause nobody knows the day or time
The trumpet's gonna blow
And the skies are gonna open wide
He's coming for us just like He told us
It's been a long wait but there's a new day
And we're gonna sing hallelujah
When the King arrives (*chorus*)

Bridge: Are you ready are you ready
People get ready people get ready
Are you ready are you ready
People get ready people get ready (*chorus 2x*)

Prayers of the People

MEAL

Offering

Offering Song – “Alive and Breathing,” Elle Limebear and Matt Maher

1. What holds your heart?
What stirs your soul?
What matters come to mind?
The cares you keep
The thoughts you think
It's not all wasted time
Seek and you will find

Chorus: Joy still comes in the morning
Hope still walks with the hurting
If you're still alive and breathing
Praise the Lord!

Don't stop dancing and dreaming
There's still good news worth repeating
So lift your head and keep singing
Praise the Lord!

2. The years roll by
We wonder why
We lost our way from home
Our Father finds
The child inside
We left for growing old
Awake, awake, awake my soul (*chorus*)

Bridge: Let everything, let everything
Let everything praise the Lord
In the working, in the waiting,
Let it praise the Lord
In the blessing, in the breaking,
Come on, praise the Lord
In the dying, the rising,
Let it praise the Lord
Let it praise the Lord (*chorus*)

Prayer after the Offering

We give thanks together for all God's gifts as we offer them back to God. To every prompt, I invite you to respond with this simple phrase: "Thank you"...

...We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help.

Amen.

Holy Communion

Dialog

The Lord be with you.

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.

Words of Institution

God our Creator ... we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Meal

The time is now! Taste and see God's goodness!

Amen.

Communion Song – "Come Lord Come," Harmony Smith and Nigel Briggs

1. There's a cry in us
An ancient anthem of longing
For Your kingdom to come.
Show Your glory.

2. There's a hope in us
The promise of Your returning
King of heaven, come
In Your Glory

Chorus 1: We join with the tribes all nations and say
Come Lord come
We join with the earth that is groaning and say
Come Lord come
We join with the church through the ages and say
Come Lord come
We join with the angels and worship the Lamb
Come Lord come

3. There's a hope in us
The promise of Your returning
Risen Savior come
We are waiting

Chorus 2: We join with the tribes all nations and say
Come Lord come
We join with the earth that is groaning and say
Come Lord come
We join with the church through the ages and say
Come Lord come
We join with the angels and worship the Lamb
Come Lord come, come Lord come
Come Lord come, come Lord come

Chorus 3: We join with the tribes all nations and say
Come Lord come
We join with the earth that is groaning and say
Come Lord come
We join with the church through the ages and say
Come Lord come
We join with the angels and worship the Lamb.

Prayer after the Meal

Please pray with me.

We bless you, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

God our Creator, who made the starlit sky, blesses you. God blesses you.

God blesses you.

Jesus our Redeemer, who arrives at just the right time, blesses you. Jesus blesses you.

Jesus blesses you.

The Holy Spirit our Enlivener, who sparks hope for the hopeless, blesses you. The Holy Spirit blesses you.

The Holy Spirit blesses you.

You are blessed in the name of God the Three in One.

Amen.

Sending

As you leave this place, remember:
even when you travel through uncertainty,
God travels with you.

Keep alert; trust God; seek peace.

Thanks be to God.

Sending Song – “Love Found Me,” Tyler Hall, Dave Hanbury,
Jason Ingram, Mike Tenkate, and Rich Thompson

1. There's no better days than these.

There's something in the air.

It's coming over me.

It feels like I'm awakening
to a brand new day of hope,
seeing things I've never seen.

This is what I've been looking for.

Chorus: I found love and love found me.

Broke through my heart and set me free.

And now I know that I'm complete,
'cause I found love and love found me.

Singin' yeah, yeah, yeah,
love found me.

Singin' yeah, yeah, yeah,
love found me.

2. There's a peace I've come to know,

And it's holding on to me
like an anchor to my soul.

And now that I am free,
I'll shout for all to hear
this song inside of me.

This is what I've been looking for. (*chorus*)

Bridge: Oh, how this love is real

no matter what they say.

Oh, how this love will steal
ev'ry heart it saves.

Chorus 2: I found love and love found me

Broke through my heart and set me free.

And now I know that I'm complete
'cause I found love and love found me.

I found love and love found me.

Broke through my heart and set me free
And now I know that I'm complete

'cause I found love and love found me.

Singin' yeah, yeah, yeah,

love found me.
Singin' yeah, yeah, yeah,
love found me.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister: Pastor Paul Svingen

Preaching Minister: Pastor Justin Kosec

Celebrate Band: Nate Anderson, Owen Anderson, Denny Gale, Jake Lemme,
Toni LeVasseur, and Janell Mills

Reader: Brian Sittig

Sound: Dave Poppenga

Media: O'Zareus Davis

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About the Series *Out of Time*

Just what is God doing when it comes to time and to us? *Out of Time* explores responses inspired by the Revised Common Lectionary texts. Through the following themes, the series invites reflection on how people experience time and on how God uses our experience to meet us, challenge us, bless us, shape us, and call us into holy endings and new beginnings.

November 12: Uncertain Time

November 19: Time Is Relative

November 26: In Our Time

December 3: Running Out of Time

December 10: Time Flies

December 17: Dreamlike Time

December 24: Out of Time

Christmas Eve: No Time

Christmas Day: The End Time Is the Beginning

At its heart, this series explores two senses of being *out of time*. Advent thrusts upon us the reality that time is limited. We run out of time to reconcile, to prepare, to make a change. Yet even as we are running out of time, God is outside of time entirely. God's infinite being and infinite patience cut through our fear as God enters human time to dwell with us: *Emmanuel*, God-with-us.

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