

# Celebrate



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

Contemporary Worship Service

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023 ♦ 8:45 A.M.



## GATHERING

**Pre-Service Song** – “One Day,” Bryan Fowler, Matt Armstrong,  
and Michael Cochren

1. One day there'll be no more waiting  
Left for our souls  
One day there'll be no more children  
Longing for home  
One day when the kingdom comes  
Right here where we stand  
We will see the promised land

2. One day there'll be no more lives  
Taken too soon  
One day there'll be no more need  
For a hospital room  
One day every tear that falls  
Will be wiped by His hand  
We will see the promised land

Chorus: Hallelujah

There will be healing  
From this heartbreak  
We've been feeling  
We'll sing in the darkest night  
'Cause we know that the light will come  
And there will be healing  
Hallelujah

3. One day there'll be no more anger left in our eyes  
One day the color of our skin won't cause a divide  
One day we'll be family standing hand in hand  
And we will see the promised land

4. One day every knee will bow  
Every tongue will confess  
One day when our tired and weary bones  
Find their rest  
One day when the power of evil's brought to an end  
We will see the promised land  
We will see the promised land

Final Chorus: Hallelujah

There will be healing  
From this heartbreak  
We've been feeling  
We'll sing in the coldest night  
'Cause we know that Your light will come  
And there will be healing  
Hallelujah  
And there will be healing  
Hallelujah  
And there will be healing  
Hallelujah

**Gathering Song** – "O Come, O Come Emmanuel," arr. Nicole C. Mullen

1. O Come O Come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear,  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.
2. O Come O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh  
In strength and beauty come and stay, teach us your will and  
guide our way.  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.

3. O Come O King of nations, come, O cornerstone that binds in one  
Refresh the hearts that long for you, restore the broken, make us new  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.

## 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

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*)

### 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.**

**Song of Praise** – "Light Shines in the Darkness," Larry Olson  
and Hans Peterson

Chorus: Oh the light shines in the darkness,

and the light will not be overcome.

Oh the light shines in the darkness,

and the light will not be overcome.

1. As our lives are turning, and our hearts are yearning,

Through the days of hurting, deep in the night,

still the flame burns bright. (*chorus*)

2. Tears throughout creation, torn-apart relations.

Wounds across the nations, hope may seem gone,

Still the flame burns on. (*chorus 2x*)

## WORD

### Psalm

"Come, Lord Jesus!"

"There's a Star in the East"

**Reading** – 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

**Gospel** – Matthew 25:14–30

## **Sermon**

## **Rite of Installation**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**Song of the Day** – “Light of the World,” Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, and Paul Mabury

1. The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come O come Emmanuel  
A child prays for peace on earth  
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt  
O come O come Emmanuel  
And can you hear the angels singing

Chorus 1: Glory to the Light of the world  
Glory the Light of the world is here

2. The drought breaks with the tears of a mother  
A baby's cry is the sound of love come down  
Come down Emmanuel woh  
He is the song for the suffering  
He is Messiah the Prince of peace has come  
He has come Emmanuel oh

Chorus 2: Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Bridge: For all who wait for all who hunger  
For all who've prayed for all who wonder  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel Emmanuel

Chorus 3: Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel Emmanuel

Ending: The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come O come Emmanuel

## **Commissioning of the Transition Task Force**

### **MEAL**

## **Prayers of the People**

## **Offering**

Offering Song – “Holy Water,” Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, and Scott Cash

1. God, I'm on my knees again  
God, I'm begging please again  
I need you, Oh, I need you

Walking down these desert roads  
Water for my thirsty soul  
I need you, Oh, I need you

Chorus: Your forgiveness  
Is like sweet, sweet honey on my lips  
Like the sound of a symphony to my ears  
Like Holy water on my skin

2. Dead man walking, slave to sin  
I wanna know about being born again  
I need you, Oh, God, I need you  
So, take me to the riverside  
Take me under, baptize  
I need you, Oh, God I need you (*chorus*)

Bridge: I don't wanna abuse your grace  
God, I need it every day  
It's the only thing that ever really  
Makes me wanna change (*repeat 2x, then 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 – "Is He Worthy?" Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

1. Do you feel the world is broken?

We do.

Do you feel the shadows deepen?

We do.

But do you know that all the dark

Won't stop the light from getting through?

We do.

Do you wish that you could see it all made new?

We do.

2. Is all creation groaning?

It is.

Is a new creation coming?

It is.

Is the glory of the Lord

To be the light within our midst?

It is.

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this?

It is.

Chorus: Is anyone worthy?

Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

Is He worthy

Is He worthy

Of all blessing and honor and glory?

Is He worthy,

Is He worthy, is He worthy of this?

He is

3. Does the Father truly love us?

He does.

Does the Spirit move among us?

He does.

And does Jesus our Messiah

Hold forever those He loves?

He does.

Does our God intend to dwell again with us?

He does. (*chorus*)

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:  
whether you feel lost in time that races like a waterfall  
or trapped in time that drips away slowly,  
God is beside you.  
Keep alert; trust God; seek peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sending Song** – “Let Your Light Shine,” Justin Ehrman

Chorus: Let your light shine – let your light shine always  
For the glory – for the glory of the Father.  
Let all who see us know we live to follow Jesus.  
Because of Christ we live eternally – so let your light shine.

1. Commanded to be Christ’s hands and feet.

We pray for courage to do God’s will.  
Holy Spirit, light the fire in my heart  
So darkness ends with just a spark. (*chorus*)

2. We gather unified in Christ.

To praise our God we live to serve.  
Use us to share the message of your love.  
Open up their hearts to light above. (*chorus*)

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Tim Lemme

**Preaching Minister:** Bishop Constanze Hagmaier

**Celebrate Band:** Jane Ruud, Gene LeVasseur, Jake Lemme, Steve Kuper,  
George Gongopoulos, Denny Gale, and Beth Boyens

**Joyful Noize:** Directed by Gene LeVasseur, accompanied by Deanna Wehrspann

**Reader:** Renee Aaker

**Sound:** Matt Steinhouse

**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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