

Second Sunday of Advent



Word and Sacrament

“Little Church with a BIG Heart”

Saint Bartholomew Lutheran Church

December 7, 2025 11:00AM



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

Welcome to Worship!

This morning we celebrate the **Second Sunday of Advent**. The lyrics to the hymns are in the red hymnals in the pews.

We extend special greetings to all our guests who are with us today. Your presence, along with our members and friends, is truly valued. Know that all of God's people are always welcome here at St. Bartholomew.

Holy Communion

Saint Bart's celebrates the real presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. We invite all to come and share. At the time of communion, you will come up to the Altar and receive the elements.

Praying People

Everyone is invited to offer their prayer concerns during the Prayers of the Church.

Second Sunday of Advent

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

Announcements

We will have a **children's sermon** today. Afterwards, children will leave for the **nursery** and return to the church for Communion.

The church will be **decorated** today after fellowship.

The deadline for ordering **poinsettias** is today. The cost is \$12 each. Please talk to Barb to place your order.

Midweek **Advent supper/worship** is Wednesday at St. Bart's at 6 p.m., featuring our **Soup Off/Concurso de Sopas!**

Packing food pantry bags will be Thursday and Friday from 7-9 p.m. Please let Jackie know if you are coming.

The RAWtools shop is open Fridays and Saturdays at 1 p.m., weather permitting.

Servicio en Español and **Enid's Pantry** are Saturday morning.

Council will meet next Sunday. **Reports** are due Wednesday.

The **Eternal Candle** is lit in December in honor of **Diane Erga**, donated by Rolf Erga.

We can use any food or monetary donations to help our community in need.

Are there any other announcements?

Bell/Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Litany

Week Two: Peace

Reader One: Because of war, because of violence in our communities, because there is still so much unrest in our hearts, we light a candle of peace...

Reader Two: Because hatred is still so strong, because so many swords have not yet been remade into ploughshares, we light a candle of peace... *(Light the second candle in Advent wreath.)*

Reader One: May the light from this candle overwhelm the world.

Reader Two: May the light from this candle say to all that God's peace is coming, on earth as it already is in heaven.

Reader One: Friends, be not afraid, God's peace is at hand!

Advent Hymn: ELW # 257, verses 3 & 4

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and night: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

Refrain
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way, Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
 whose home is heaven and earth,
 whose salvation is sure.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
 and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Long-expected God,
C we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance,
and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God's timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.
Amen.

P God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God's own righteousness.
✠ You are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.
C **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: ELW # 711

O Day of Peace



1 O day of peace that dim-ly shines through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the fierce de-vour the small;



guide us to jus-tice, truth, and love, de-liv-ered from our self-ish schemes.
as beasts and cat-tle calm-ly graze, a lit-tle child shall lead them all.



May swords of hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en-vy find re-lease,
Then en-e-mies shall learn to love, all crea-tures find their true ac-cord;



till by God's grace our war-ring world shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.
the hope of peace shall be ful-filled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: JERUSALEM, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

Kyrie



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Canticle of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Prayer Of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Children's Sermon and Nursery

WORD

A I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth (Psalm 34:1). Lord, bless the reading of your word. Make it come alive in our midst.

C **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's
den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the
peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his
dwelling shall be glorious.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

A ¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;

C ² **that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**

A ³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

C ⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

A ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

C ⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

A ⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall
be no more.

C ¹⁸ **Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**

A ¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

- ¹² and again Isaiah says,
“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”
- ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in
believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of
the Holy Spirit.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation



P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 3rd chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

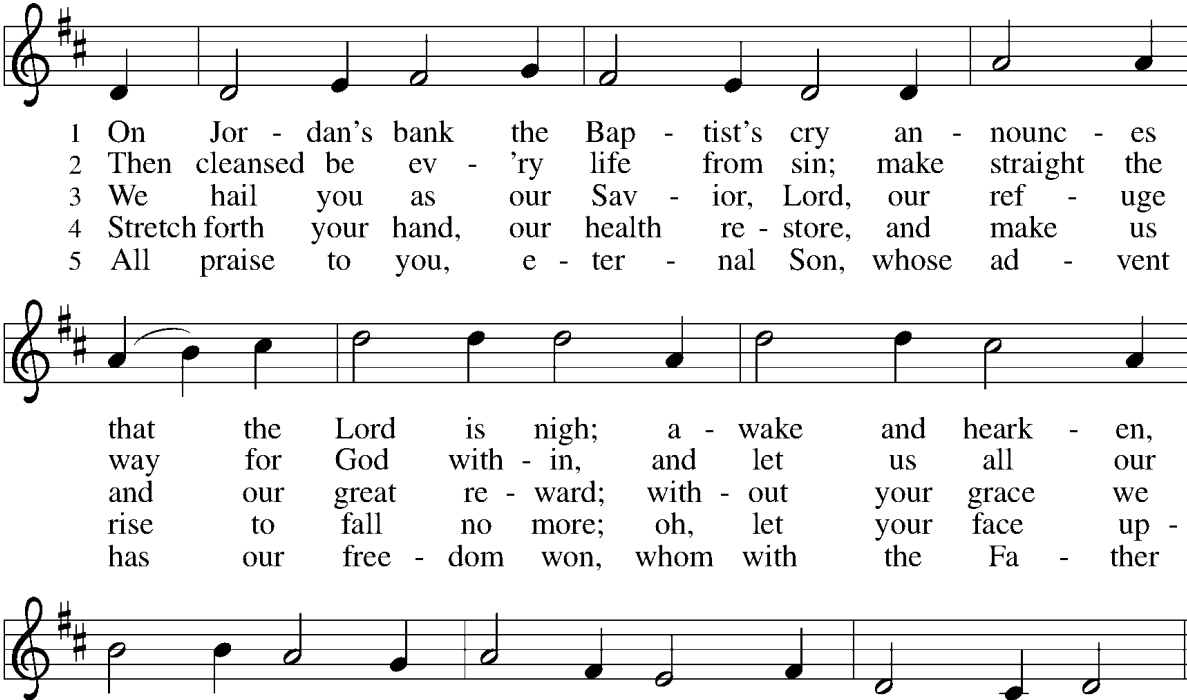
¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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

SERMON

Hymn of the Day: ELW # 249

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you

Apostle's Creed

P Let us all affirm our faith by using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C 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

Each petition ends:

A God of grace, **C** **hear our prayer.**

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another, *especially Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, Sudan, and the United States*. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease (*especially Joe, Nick, Bob, Justin, Billy, Gloria, Rosemary, Nelson, Tom, Shirley, Rich, Heather, and Gail*). Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our partner churches: Abiding Presence and Prince of Peace; We pray for our Bishop Christa Compton; We also pray for the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays, and for those celebrating anniversaries, *especially Kristen and Kleber Arcos*; also for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

At this time, you may offer up prayers for loved ones, thanksgivings to God, or any other intercessions silently or aloud... **(Pause)** God of grace,
hear our prayer.

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

(Pastor) Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C Amen.

THE OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

A Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
that we may rejoice and be for the world
signs of your kingdom come.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

PREFACE

P It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For when he humbled himself to come among us in human
flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of
the world
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,
we now watch for the day
when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.
And so we join our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
to proclaim your glory
for ever praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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:

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

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.
C 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.
C 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.
C Amen

Lord's Prayer

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

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, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

Distribution

TABLE BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God our host,
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,
welcome the stranger,
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

C Amen.

+Sending+

Benediction

P May God who comes among us,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW # 264

Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom-ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound-ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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Dismissal

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude