

# Online Advent Bulletin

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December 6, 2020

Welcome to St. Andrews Lutheran Church in San Mateo, CA and our online worship service. Please feel free to pause this video, you may want to have a lit candle in front of you. Materials you may want to have: bread/cracker/tortilla, and wine/juice for communion. Feel share this bulletin and this worship service with friends, family, or neighbors.

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome**

Advent is a time of preparation, waiting, watching and expectation for the coming of the birth of Jesus. One of the traditions of Advent is to light candles for each week before Christmas Eve. This time of waiting allows us to carve out time to be silent in our wait to pray and listen for the voice of God. Many people have an advent wreath where we mark off each day during the anticipation of the coming of the Christ child. Candles have traditionally marked our time of expectation and preparation as we note the passing of each week before the celebration of Jesus' birth. Blessed Advent!! (CWE)

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Pastor: Who is Coming?

**Congregation: Jesus is Coming!**

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## Hymn

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (sung during the lightening of the candles)

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan’s tyranny  
From depths of Hell They people save  
And give them victory o’er the grave  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

Pastor: We begin our worship in the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer. **AMEN.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray, Holy Spirit living within us, you blessed Mary with a visit from an angel. She listened to the message and agreed to be a large part of how God works in our world. Mary opened herself up to a new wild adventure. Let us be as open as Jesus' mother was to wonderful challenges from God. May our worship bring us insight into the compassionate ways the Holy Spirit calls us into places we had never dreamed to be a part. Blessed be God. **AMEN.** (CWE)

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## Opening Hymn ELW #296 "What Child is This?"



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



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## **First Reading      Micah 5:1-5a**

Now you are walled around with a wall;  
siege is laid against us;  
with a rod they strike the ruler of Israel  
upon the cheek.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.  
If the Assyrians come into our land  
and tread upon our soil,  
we will raise against them seven shepherds  
and eight installed as rulers.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Bell Choir**

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**Psalm 16:5-9** (Read responsively)

<sup>5</sup>The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;  
**you hold my lot.**

<sup>6</sup>The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
**I have a goodly heritage.**

<sup>7</sup>I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
**in the night also my heart instructs me.**

<sup>8</sup>I keep the LORD always before me;  
**because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

<sup>9</sup>Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
**my body also rests secure.**

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Praise the Lord!**

**The Holy Gospel**

**Luke 1:39-56**

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup>where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup>and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup>And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup>For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;

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he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

<sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;

<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

<sup>56</sup> And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Glory to you, O God.**

**Sermon**

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## Hymn of the Day 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:

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

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## Prayers of the People

Let us pray.

God of power and might, during advent we look for the miracle of a young virgin giving birth to the Son of God. We wait and watch for people to take on the attributes of Jesus like kindness, compassion and the ability to forgive. We eagerly look for sightings of people going out of their way to help others. As we keep our eyes open we can be witnesses of the teachings of Jesus come to life. This year we are looking toward God to give us a miracle that puts an end to this pandemic. We pause to pray for all those who we believe need God's care, healing, and love. We lean on you for healing Jesus. Keep us safe. Help us through each day. **AMEN.**  
(CWE 2020)

## Peace of the Lord

Pastor: Peace of the Lord be with you all.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us share God's peace with one another.

## Offering

I invite you to donate your offering to St. Andrews by sending in a check. You can also donate by PayPal or through our website. To contribution through PayPal, click on the heart on the homepage of our website. Or you can contact our administrative assistant, Marjorie Goodwin, at the office to setup one-time and reoccurring contributions through our vendor – Vanco, using your checking or savings account. Thank you for your contribution to the ministry of our church. All contributions are appreciated.

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## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray, May the gifts that we offer to God be a sign of our trust in God's promise of a new tomorrow, a better day, a sign that love and forgiveness have indeed found a way. **AMEN.** (CWE)

## Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts

**Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: 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 in remembrance of me. 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 sins. Drink this and remember me.

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## Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us;  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## Blessing

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **AMEN**

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## Sending Hymn ELW #267 "Joy to the World"

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

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## **Benediction**

May you live this week watching and waiting for the Christ child.  
Live as if God has come among us, because God has.  
Live as if God has been revealed to you  
and called you to love and service to others—because God has.  
Live in anticipation of the reconciliation of all creation to God—because it is  
coming.  
Live as if your life depended upon God’s grace—because it does.  
And live to celebrate the advent of our Messiah, Jesus Christ,  
praising the name of the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sustainer.  
Amen.

<https://voxveniae.com/2012/12/liturgy-reflection-benediction-12-23-12> (revision  
by CWE)

## **Dismissal**

**Pastor:** Go in Peace and share the good news!!

**Congregation:** **Thanks be to God!!!**

**Flowers** In Memory of Leonard W Johnson’s Birthday

**Reminder** St. Andrew’s Congregational Meeting on **December 6<sup>th</sup> 2020** at  
10:30 a.m. via Zoom