

Online Advent Bulletin

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December 20, 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, O Branch of Jesse,
Free your own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save,
And give them vict’ry 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 #300 "The First Noel"



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . north - west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered

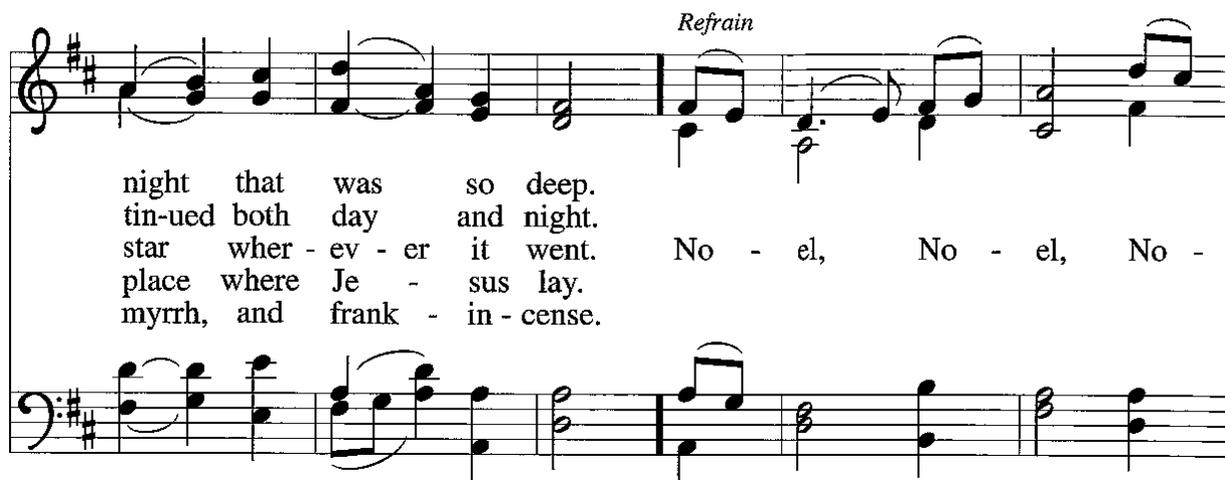


they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . great light, and . . so it con -
king was their . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . and stay right . . o - ver the
there in his . . pres - ence their . . gold, and

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Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

First Reading John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Bell Choir

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Psalm 146:5-10 (Read responsively)

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith forever;

⁷ **who executes justice for the oppressed;**

who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

⁸ **the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.**

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

the Lord loves the righteous.

⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers;

God upholds the orphan and the widow,

but the way of the wicked God brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The Lord will reign forever,

your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

This is the Word of the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

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The Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

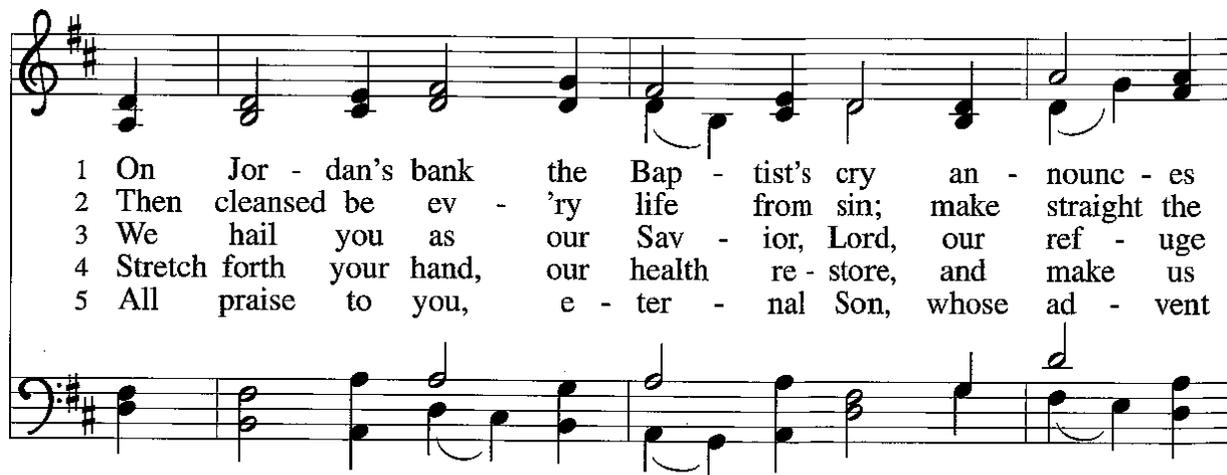
Glory to you, O God.

Sermon

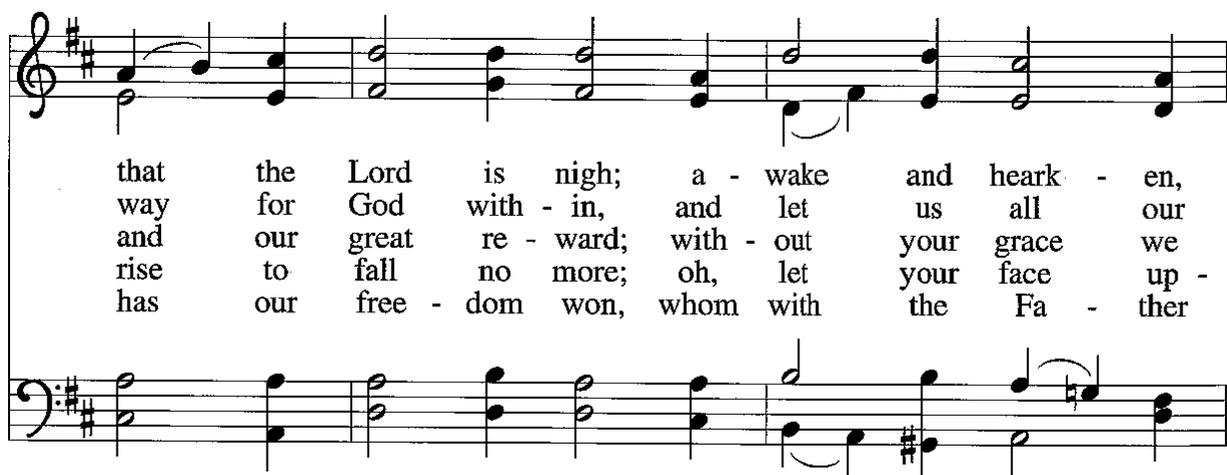
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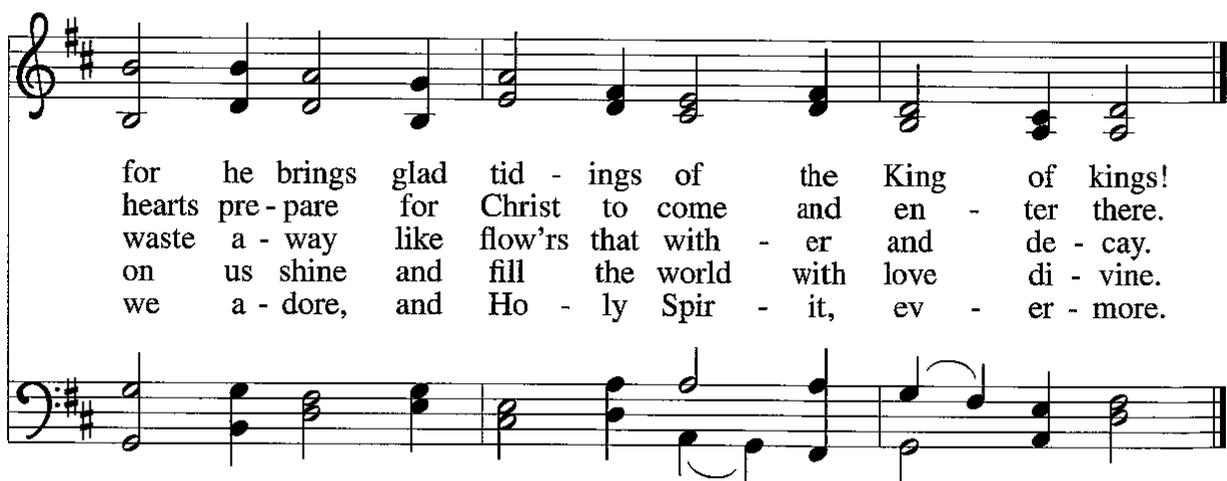
Hymn of the Day ELW #249 "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"



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.

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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!!!**