

# The Sunday Messenger

Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada Iowa ♦ November 29, 2020

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.  
You call all nations to walk in your light  
and to seek your ways of justice and peace,  
for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.  
Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.  
Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready  
to greet our Lord when he comes  
and welcome him into our hearts and homes,  
for he is our light and our salvation.  
Blessed be God forever.

**Amen.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit,  
whose forgiveness is sure  
and whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Amen.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess  
that we have not lived as God desires.

Loving and forgiving God,  
**we confess that we are held captive by sin.  
In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We  
have not welcomed the stranger;  
we have not loved our neighbor;  
we have not been Christ to one another.**  
Restore us, O God.

**Wake us up and turn us from our sin.  
Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news:  
by God's endless grace  
your sins are forgiven, and you are free—  
free from all that holds you back  
and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.  
May you be strengthened in God's love, +comforted by  
Christ's peace,  
and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

### First Lesson *Isaiah 64:1-9*

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

## Psalm 80

### Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:3-9*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord  
Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of  
the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Je-  
sus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in  
speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testi-  
mony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so  
that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait  
for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also  
strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blame-  
less on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful;  
by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Gospel *Mark 13:24-37*

[[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.  
<sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds'  
with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the  
angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from  
the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.  
<sup>28</sup>From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its  
branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you  
know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see  
these things taking place, you know that he is near, at  
the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not  
pass away until all these things have taken  
place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words  
will not pass away.  
<sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither  
the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Fa-  
ther. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the  
time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey,  
when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge,  
each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be  
on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not  
know when the master of the house will come, in the  
evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or  
else he may find you asleep when he comes sudden-  
ly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

## Sermon



## Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic  
church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

### Lord's Prayer

## Blessing

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,  
the long-expected Savior fill you with love,  
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, +now and forever.  
Amen.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Be Part of Online Fellowship After Worship Each Sunday.

We will use Zoom as a way to connect with each other after worship. The same link will be used each week:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83367838198> For those interested in the Book of Faith adult study, a break out room will be created after a little time of fellowship.

### Advent Devotions with Holy Communion

Pastor Duane will offer small gatherings during the weeks of Advent for devotions and Holy Communion. A schedule is being developed that will include both daytime and evening openings. You can call for a reservation at 382-6509, or use the Sign Up Genius:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094ca8ac2ea20-advent>

The National Lutheran Choir Christmas Festival comes to audiences **FREE** in a virtual, multi-media format on December 11. *The Incarnation: For the Healing of the World* brings music from around the globe announcing the birth of Christ with messages of peace and joy that nothing – not even a pandemic – can take away. **Friday, December 11, 2020 – 8pm (CST) @ NLCA.com**

**Christmas Vespers Online Service on December 20 at 7:00 pm.** Save the date for the YouTube premiere of the Christmas Vespers service. Share this information with your friends and family to tune in for this annual musical gift.

## FAITH AND LIFE TOGETHER

### For Those Hospitalized

.Edith Bloomquist, *Rolling Green Skilled Care*

### Prayers for Healing

Shellie Black, Sherry Kluever, Harlen Johnsen, Jim Pappas, Karen Anderson, Almeda Warner, Janeen Driscoll, Darren Kluever, Jaylee Bartleson, Gary Kluever, Larry Christian, Julie Sutherland, Sheila Collingwood *Lyndsey De Vos' mother*, Lynn Harris, George Forsyth, Cassie Harrell, Jeff Sebring *son-in-law of Ernie and Marlene Ruhde*, Norma Gandrup, Linda Horn, Tom Nervig, Glenda Day, Ginny Hausner, Ken Johnson, Camden Kelsey, Cooper Leeman, Jan Cook, Margie Nahnsen