



Sunday, December 20, 2020
10:45 A.M.

THOSE
WHO *are*
DREAM *not alone*
4TH sunday in Advent

The Advent wreath is a well-known custom for the season. The wreath and winter candle-lighting amid growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is a clear image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit, or bows. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes, the family gathers for prayers around the wreath.

You may wish to create your own advent wreath at home, creating a circle with candles in your worship space, and welcome God's presence among you in a new way.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Love Came Down at Christmas

**Love came down at Christmas
Love, all lovely, love divine
Love was born at Christmas
Star and angels gave the sign
*Repeat***

**Love shall be our token
Love be yours and love be mine
Love from God to all of us
Love for plea and gift and sign**

Instrumental Solo

**Love shall be our token
Love be yours and love be mine
Love from God to all of us
Love for plea and gift and sign**

**Love came down at Christmas
Love, all lovely, love divine
Love was born at Christmas
Star and angels gave the sign**

WELCOME & ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING PRAYER

GATHERING SONGS: *Lighting of the Advent Candle: Love*

**Light one advent candle... And let it shine for hope
Light one advent candle... And let it shine for hope
Light one advent candle... And let it shine for hope
Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine!!!**

**Light two advent candles and let 'em shine for peace...
Light three advent candles and let 'em shine for joy...
Light four advent candles and let' em shine for love...**

Freedom is Coming

**Freedom is coming, freedom is coming
Freedom is coming, oh yes I know
Freedom is coming, freedom is coming
Freedom is coming, oh yes I know**

**Oh yes I know, oh yes I know
Oh yes I know, oh yes I know
Oh yes I know, oh yes I know
Oh yes I know, oh yes I know**

Angels are coming...

Christmas is coming...

Shepherds are coming...

Wise men are coming...

Jesus is coming...

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL – Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy;

he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON **The ABCs of Christmas** *ELC's Sunday School*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to pray... through song, through silent reflection, through words, or anything else in between. May this song guide your prayers today. If you would like to lift prayers up so that others might pray, too, please do so in the comments section during our livestream worship.

The Advent Song
An Original Song by David Bugher

**As I lay my weary head
at your feet in the light of the cross
I see the love that lies ahead,
the child who'll bring light to the lost
Our living God, the Son of man
as the prophet Isaiah foretold
The coming of the sacred lamb,
with a promise of grace for the young and the old**

***Chorus:* And you lay me down
In my dreams, you keep awake love
You lay me down
In the warmth of your light 'gainst the cold
You lay me down
And we try and we try but we need not try anymore
For soon, Immanuel shall be born**

**Finding rest within the Lord,
my love and my spirit restored
Angels waking by my bed,
singing magnify the Lord
The living God, thy kingdom love,
Jesus is coming soon
Come!**

Chorus

Instrumental Solo

**And you lay me down... And you lay me down
And you lay me down... Soon Jesus Christ is born**

MEAL

We practice two sacraments in the Lutheran tradition: baptism and holy communion. These are celebrated in community, in public worship, where we can all participate and remember together: God is known for using ordinary earthly things (like water, bread, and wine) to make extraordinary promises (like forgiveness, salvation, healing and new life) to creation.

Today is a good reminder that this simple meal nourishes God's community across time and space - this is why we call it communion. We would rather be with you in person for the sacrament today, but we trust Jesus to show up beyond our limitations, to meet us in this separation with a Spirit that unites, to feed us with the bread of life who is our source and strength.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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

We don't serve ourselves communion because there's something holy about that promise coming from outside our own bodies, a perfect declaration from God spoken to us by our neighbor: This is the body of Christ, given for you. This is the blood of Christ, poured out for you. If you are gathered together with others from your household, speak these words aloud when you serve each other. If you do not have someone in the room with you while you receive the sacrament, hear my voice as the external word of grace and invitation.

+ + *Receive the Meal* + +

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

We pause for prayer and reflection, offering time to commune one another.

SENDING

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING SONG *Jesus, What a Wonderful Child*

**Jesus, Jesus
Oh what a wonderful child
Jesus, Jesus
so holy, meek and mild
New life, new hope
the Child will bring
Listen, to the angels sing
Glory, glory, glory
Let the heavens ring**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

*See you next week for worship at 5pm on Saturday
and 10:00am on Sunday!*



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Our Mission:

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ
and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries, meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to call or email us. You are always welcome here.

+ Pastor Christina Klein

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Thank you for worshipping with us today as we seek to be in community with one another while minimizing physical contact. As a gentle reminder, please continue to wash your hands for the recommended 20 seconds, wear a mask and create safe boundaries through physical distancing.

We know that God is with us and God is at work, wherever we worship. With coronavirus cases on the rise, we will continue worshipping online at this time. Please be vigilant and check your email, Facebook, etc., for additional notifications and updates in the coming weeks, and contact the church council (council@edgebrooklutheran.org) with any concerns.

Stay safe and be well! God's peace to you!!