

ST. LUKE'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH 7:00 p.m.

200 11th Street E.

Lemmon, SD 57638

We are affiliated with the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC).

Richard Kanzenbach

Pastor

Midweek Advent I

Ruth Wiechmann, pianist

November 30, 2022

WELCOME!

“When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the Law, to redeem them that were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption of sons!”

--- Galatians 4:4-5 (KJV)

Hymn 73 vv. 1-3 (melody 3) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

P: O Lord, let the words of my mouth

C: And the meditation of my heart

P: Be acceptable in Your sight,

C: O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer.

P & C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be eternally. Amen.

Psalm 24 *The LORD is the holy Creator. Only those who have a clean heart-- that is, those who are forgiven through faith in Christ and who serve Him-- stand before Him righteous. Welcome Jesus with open “gates” of heart!*

P: The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness,

C: The world and those who dwell therein.

P: For He has founded it upon the seas,

C: And established it upon the waters.

P: Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord?

C: Or who may stand in His holy place?

P: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,

C: Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully.

P: He shall receive blessing from the Lord,

C: And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

P: This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him--

C: --Who seek Your face.

Selah [musical interlude].

P: Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!

C: And the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?

C: The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

P: Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors!

C: And the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?

C: The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory!

Selah

Hymn 73 vv. 4-5 (melody 3) Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

Old Testament: Isaiah 7:1-14 (selected verses)

Although King Ahaz of Judah was a descendant of good King David, he was not a godly man. He was facing kings of the neighboring nations Syria and Ephraim, who were about to attack Jerusalem. God sent the prophet Isaiah to encourage Ahaz to trust the Lord. Ahaz would not. Isaiah warned: A better son and a better king will follow you, who will not be born your son, but will be born by a miracle to a virgin. He will rescue the people and reign. His name will be “Immanuel—God with Us.” (Ahaz, you are done.)

vv. 2-4a

P: And it was told to the house of David [*that is, the kingdom of Ahaz*]], saying,

C: Syria’s forces are deployed in Ephraim [*as allies*].

P: So his heart and the heart of his people were moved!

C: As the trees of the woods are moved with the wind.

P: Then the Lord said to Isaiah, Go out now to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-Jashub your son--

C: --At the end of the aqueduct from the upper pool,

P: On the highway to the Fuller’s Field, and say to him: Take heed, and be quiet.

C: Do not fear or be faint-hearted for [*before*] **these two stubs of smoking firebrands.**

vv. 7-14

P: Thus says the Lord God: “It shall not stand--

C: --Nor shall it come to pass.

P: For the head of Syria is Damascus [*capital*], and the head of Damascus is Rezin [*king*].

C: Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be broken, so that it will not be a people.

P: The head of Ephraim is Samaria [*capital*], and the head of Samaria is Remaliah’s son [*king*].

C: If you will not believe, Surely you shall not be established.”

P: Moreover the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God;

C: Ask it either in the depth, or in the height above.”

P: But Ahaz said, I will not ask,

C: Nor will I test the Lord!

P: Then he [*Isaiah*] said, Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:

C: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name IMMANUEL ! [*God with us*].

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:5-23 When the time was just right, the Lord was ready to send His Son. There would be a forerunner to prepare the hearts of the people—John the Baptist. John’s birth was by a miracle of God. The aged priest Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth were both well along in years.

Hymn 93 vv. 1-3 O Lord, We Welcome Thee!

SERMON: LUKE 19:35-44

SPECIAL ADVENT WELCOME PLUS UN-WELCOME

Then they brought him [a colt] to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road. Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, saying:

“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the LORD!”

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!

And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, “Teacher, rebuke Your disciples.” But He answered and said to them, “I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.”

Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”

Hymn 66 Hark the Glad Sound!

OFFERING, PRAYER, AND LORD’S PRAYER

Benediction

Hymn 93 v. 4 O Lord, We Welcome Thee!

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THE ADVENT WREATH: The Advent wreath is a Christian custom used in preparation for Christmas. Its origins appear to be from Lutheran circles in Germany during the 1800’s. Originally a candle was lit each day in Advent to point children ahead to the great day of Christmas. Modifications have been made over the years. We now have one candle each week and one candle at Christmas. Various meanings and points of devotion exist regarding each of the candles.

THE 1ST ADVENT CANDLE (VIOLET—the color of repentance): The “Prophecy Candle” begins the period of waiting. It reminds us of the Old Testament promises/prophesies of the coming of the Savior from sin. With humble hearts of repentance awaiting the Savior from sin, we think back to the many believers before us who waited patiently and longingly for the promise of the Savior to be fulfilled.

