

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 6, 2020



## SAINT LUKE CHURCH

WELCOME \_\_\_\_\_

Prelude: "Comfort Ye" *from Messiah*

G.F. Handel

Ringing of the Bells

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM \_\_\_\_\_

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvations.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING \_\_\_\_\_

### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### Hymn

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low:  
Make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!

### Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD \_\_\_\_\_

### First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

*The reading concludes:*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord;  
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people  
and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,  
for you speak peace to your faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to you.

Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,  
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before the Lord  
and peace shall prepare for God a pathway.

### Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15

*The reading concludes:*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



## HOLY GOSPEL

**Light two candles to watch for Messiah, let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel. God fulfills the promise.**

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

✠ SAINT MARK 1:1-8 ✠

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
on the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*After each petition:* Lord, Listen to your children cry.

**Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Reflections on God's Grace

"He shall feed his flock" *from Messiah*

G.F. Handel

THANKSGIVING \_\_\_\_\_

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,  
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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**

## SENDING

---

Hymn Hark, the Glad Sound!

Hark, the glad sound! The savior comes, the Savior promised long;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim,  
and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name

Dismissal  
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Prelude: "And the Glory" *from Messiah* G.F. Handel

---

Stephen Bouman, *Preaching Minister*  
Robert Kleisch, *Assisting Minister*  
Don Mead, *Organist*

Terry Duchow, *Cantor*  
Kathryn Kleisch, *Lector*



SAINT LUKE CHURCH

December 6, 2020

The Second Sunday of Advent

PRAYER CONNECTION AND REFLECTION

*Time to reflect and pray individually as you prepare for worship*

### THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### REMEMBER THOSE WHO ARE ILL

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to your servants:

<i>Eve Scheffler</i>	<i>Maryann Palermo</i>	<i>Peter Burkhart</i>	<i>Steve Mead</i>	<i>Abigail Zhang</i>
<i>Patricia Grunde</i>	<i>Janet Hagberg</i>	<i>Christian Long</i>	<i>David Horne</i>	<i>Dale Peters</i>
<i>Shauna Stiglich</i>	<i>Jan Nyberg</i>	<i>Amyyah Robinson</i>	<i>Rosie Diaz</i>	<i>John Holland</i>
<i>Maryjo McCawley</i>	<i>Neva Geweke</i>	<i>Michael Holman</i>	<i>Linda Planekowsky</i>	<i>Dan Horton</i>
<i>David Ploger</i>	<i>Laurie Strohmayer</i>	<i>Donna Karaklasch</i>	<i>Mark Van Scharrel</i>	<i>Martha Kastigar</i>
<i>Rosemarie Morgen</i>	<i>Albester Hall Jones</i>	<i>Ray Wentworth</i>	<i>Grace Tampa</i>	

the help of your power, that illness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ. Amen

### BEFORE WORSHIP

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### REMEMBER THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES

Almighty God, we commit to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad:

*Nicholas Bakulinski* *Jeremy Strohmayer* *Dan McCarthy* *Lucas Kratz* *Preston Larson*  
Defend them with your heavenly grace and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR PEACE

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed, kindle in the hearts of all the true love of peace, and guide with Your pure and peaceable wisdom those who make decisions for the nations of the earth; that in tranquility Your kingdom may go forward, till the earth be filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

# NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## December 6, 2020

Welcome to Saint Luke



### Sunday Services

Saint Luke has temporarily suspended in person services. Services will continue online only. Please pray for our country and the world as we fight this pandemic.

### Introduction to the Day

John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

### Today

The second week of Advent—we see the signs and prepare for the Messiah! Two of the four candles in the Advent wreath are lit to mark the progress of the season. The lessons and hymns for the day call for active preparation. We work to make our hearts ready and thus prepare the way for the One who will come to us at Christmas as our Savior.



During the season of Advent an important part of our liturgy is omitted. "*Glory to God in the Highest*," the great hymn of praise usually sung at the beginning of the service, was the proclamation of the Christmas angels who announced the Savior's birth to shepherds. As we prepare for the coming of the Savior, we remember that earth has not yet seen the angels or heard their song. This hymn will be restored to our service on Christmas Eve when we of earth will join heaven's angels in announcing the birth of the Savior.

### Coffee Hour!



You are invited to Coffee Hour after Church this morning beginning at 10:30 a.m. Join the conversation and check up on people from church you haven't seen in a while! Here is the link for Coffee Hour: <https://bit.ly/39xYjVS>  
Meeting ID: 948 1158 6701, Passcode: saintluke



### Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is continuing online only. Please join the service, live, at 9:00 a.m. The link for "Online Worship" can be found on the website at [stlukechicago.org](http://stlukechicago.org).

## HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER FOR ADVENT

WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM  
DECEMBER 2, 9, & 16

Online, with the Lakeview Lutheran Parish:  
LakeView, Holy Trinity,  
Resurrection, & Saint Luke

ZOOM LINK AVAILABLE AT  
[HTCHICAGO.ORG/HOLDEN](http://HTCHICAGO.ORG/HOLDEN)



The link for "Online Worship" can be found on the website at [stlukechicago.org](http://stlukechicago.org) or use this Link: [https://www.htchicago.org/holden?fbclid=IwAR2A-V8ohQg6wbd6C4ITcnEinuK6frxdQTuQUoqJ92SOJJ7\\_Mo238HVewcI](https://www.htchicago.org/holden?fbclid=IwAR2A-V8ohQg6wbd6C4ITcnEinuK6frxdQTuQUoqJ92SOJJ7_Mo238HVewcI)



Bible Class **will** meet this Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. Get you lunch and join Pastor Bouman to discuss the lessons and Gospel for Advent 3.

The lessons are: *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, Saint John 1:6-8, 19-28*

The link for "**Bible Class**" can be found on the website at [stlukechicago.org](http://stlukechicago.org). Click on "Bible Class" or enter the following URL into your browser: <https://bit.ly/3oi0vVR>  
Meeting ID: 784 7788 0585, Passcode: saintluke.

### Caring and Sharing

During December we are collecting **hats, gloves and socks** to be distributed by Lakeview Pantry. Remember those who have little to keep them warm during our bitter winters; put your donation in the collection barrel in the lobby.

### Mobile or Text Giving

Supporting Saint Luke Ministries is just a click away. We offer convenient **online giving**, so you never have to worry about leaving your cash or checkbook at home. You can make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts – a great option for members who travel. Get started by visiting our online donation page at [www.stlukechicago.org](http://www.stlukechicago.org).

You can also text your donation! Simply send a **text message to 833.988.0613** with the amount you would like to contribute.

### The Freedom of a Christian

Amid the pandemic of COVID-19 and the ongoing pandemic of racism and xenophobia, our communities and world are ravaged by illness, death and injustice. We are tempted to turn inward in despair. Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther wrote a treatise titled ***The Freedom of a Christian***. In it, he offered his most compelling summary of the Christian life: In Christ we are completely free and at the same time completely bound in love and service to our neighbors. The Lakeview Lutheran Parish (LLP) is sponsoring a study of *The Freedom of the Christian* on Wednesday mornings 10:00 – 11:00 am continuing December 9. Join via zoom: <https://bit.ly/3luyyJm>. Meeting ID: 987 432 464. Password: 029091. Call-in: 312.626.6799. Watch a brief video from Bishop Eaton, download the study guide and a free copy of the *Freedom of the Christian* at [elca500.org](http://elca500.org).

### Your Commitment

If you have not already done so, please take the time to hand in your **commitment** for the Lord's work in 2021. We need your contribution to the Mission and Ministry of Jesus Christ in this place. Please help! Please be generous!



### THE CHRISTMAS CHANCEL

While we will not be putting up the large poinsettia trees this year, you still have the opportunity to purchase poinsettias to place in the Chancel of the Church.

Use the blank below to order a poinsettia or two in your own name or that of a loved one whom you wish to remember in a special way.

Please mail it to the church office or call the office to order a poinsettia! Please place your order by Sunday, December 20, 2020.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Or

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the amount you wish to donate for Poinsettias:

\$30.00    \$40.00    \$50.00    \$100.00

Payment type:    cash    check    charge

*Please make checks payable to Saint Luke Church.*



Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

As an added convenience you may use your VISA or MasterCard.

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_



## HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS 2020

Join Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service in spreading hope to children and families in immigration detention this holiday season.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Watch the recording of the 2020 Hope for the Holidays webinar
- Write a message of hope to families impacted by immigration detention
- Donate to help LIRS purchase gifts for children in immigration detention
- Advocate for the safety and reunification of migrant families

LIRS.ORG/HOPE



**Shop with Scrip!**  
A great way to earn money for the school and helping the economy!



Help the economy, help **Saint Luke Academy**, help yourself, help the stores where you shop, and help others by giving this as a gift and by shopping with Scrip!

Here's How It Works... You buy gift cards at full *price (no additional fees are added)*, and the Academy earns a percentage of the amount you spend. We can earn from 4% to 16% of your order! Please take a look around the website, there are over 750 cards you can buy and help our community.

Bonus- You can send your card electronically anywhere you wish. Electronic cards can be sent to that friend or family member that is celebrating an important event, even though you cannot be there in person.

The online website is <https://www.ShopWithScrip.com> and enroll with our enrollment code **FLL98D9463L61**. Once you enroll you can choose what you would like to purchase and by clicking it is a gift you can send it anywhere by email. You have choices to pay the bill by credit card (2.6% fee), by Presto Pay (\$.15 fee), and by cash/check to the school.

Scrip sells eCards, physical cards, and reloads. Please consider buying one or more today!

If you have any questions please contact Antonette Kulesza: [kulesan@stlukechicago.org](mailto:kulesan@stlukechicago.org)



This company runs specials all the time.



Southwestern Texas Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

# BORDER RELIEF FUND

<https://www.swtsynod.org/give>

*Please select the "Border Relief" option*

International Bridge Between Piedras Negras, MX and Eagle Pass, TX