



# 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

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*Welcome!* Words in **bold** are said together.

## *Confession and Forgiveness*

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Congregation: Amen.***

*L: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.*

*God for whom we wait,*

**C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

*L: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **C: Amen.***

## *Advent Candle Lighting*

### *Gathering Song – Come into God’s House*

1. Come into God’s house with singing, enter through his doors with praise.  
Joyful noises we’ll be making, hearts and voices we will raise.  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.
2. Sing it alto, bass, soprano. Sing it loud or sing it soft.  
Strum guitar or play piano, praises to our God above.  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.
3. Clap your hands to keep the rhythm. Stomp your feet and shout Amen!  
Dance in joyful celebration. Sing God’s praises without end.  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.
4. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory to the Holy Spirit, Triune God the Three in One.  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alle-lu-ia.

*Prayer of the Day—***Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## *Scripture Readings*

Jeremiah 33:14-16 p. 645

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 25:1-10 p. 436

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**<sup>2</sup>O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

**<sup>4</sup>Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

**<sup>6</sup>Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

<sup>7</sup>Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

**<sup>8</sup>Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

<sup>9</sup>He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

**<sup>10</sup>All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 p. 960

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 21:25-36 p. 856

<sup>25</sup>There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." <sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly,

<sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.” The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

Bishop Shelley Wickstrom

*Song of the Day– Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

Come, now is the time to worship. Come, now is the time to give your heart.  
Come, just as you are, to worship. Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.

One day every tongue will confess You are God. One day every knee will bow.  
Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now. (*sing 3x*)

*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 God's People*

Each petition ends “*Lord, in your mercy,*” please respond: **hear our prayer.**

*Offering*

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ Online: “giving” tab at [www.lordoflifeak.com/giving](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/giving) or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download “Give Plus Church” search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



*Offering Song – Lead Me Home (lyrics will display on screen)*

***Offering Prayer* – God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

*Christ's Words of Institution and Communion*

We eat and drink together at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

*The 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.**

## *Announcements*

- Please offer a warm welcome to Bishop Shelley – we are so happy to have you here today!
- A heartfelt thank you to all who came out to help with the annual Thanksgiving Food Boxes!
- Don't forget our first Advent Wednesday service next week at 7pm
- We still need someone to lend a hand with youth group and confirmation
- Coming up Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> at 10am : Annual Advent Gathering @ Fairbanks Lutheran Church, open to all women of ELCA
- There are still lots of slots available for beef – help your church pay the fuel bill while filling your freezer with cuts of locally raised, high-quality grass fed beef; sign up clipboard near the office

## *Blessing and Dismissal*

L: Go in peace. Christ is near.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## ***Special Thanks to...***

Assistant Minister, Evan Keil  
Video, Sam James Aleshire  
PowerPoint, Becky Peterson

Reader, Cheryl Park  
Usher, Thoma Family  
Communion Prep, Margi Ungrodt

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