

# Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Brian Bergum

## LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Advent

### Welcome and Announcements

We will be celebrating Communion during worship this morning. All are welcome! You will need to provide your own elements of bread and wine or juice for Holy Communion.

Leader: We worship as we live, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

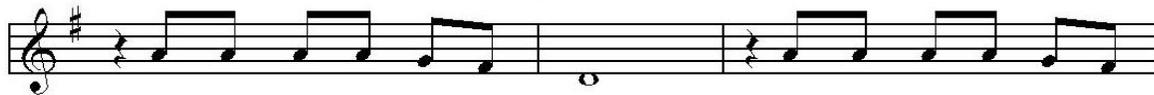
People: Amen

Leader: The days grow short and the darkness of these days reminds us of the darkness of sin and brokenness. So we put up lights, to remember the Light of Christ that shines in our darkness, in all darkness.

People: We hear the cry of the prophets, the greeting of the angel, and wonder. The Spirit of God is upon us and we proclaim the good news: Nothing is impossible with God! Come Lord Jesus.



Some - one's shout - ing from the des - ert.  
Some - one's shout - ing from the cit - y,  
Some - one's shout - ing I am brok - en.



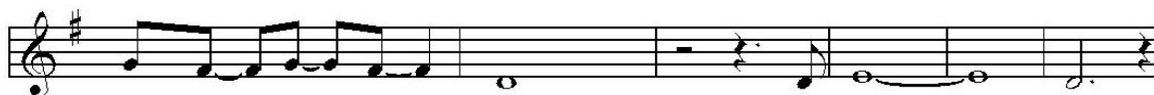
Some - one's shout - ing from the sea. Some - one's shout - ing from the  
I am young I am cold. Some - one's shout - ing from the  
Some - one's shout - ing make me whole. Some - one's shout - ing come and



moun - tain.  
coun - try,  
change me. Some - one's shout - ing from the  
I am lone - ly I am  
Some - one's shout - ing save my



val - ley. Mes - si - ah,  
old.  
soul.



come and be our King. Mes - si - ah,



come and be our King.

## Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: Advent is a season to open our lives to the presence of God. Advent is an awareness that we are made whole through the hope, peace, joy and love that comes only from God.

*(A Time of Silence for Personal Reflection and Confession.)*

Leader: Most merciful God,

**People: We confess that we have sinned against you by our thoughts, by our words, and by our actions. In this season of Advent, we pray that you would enable us to watch for your light, signs of where you are breaking through the tinsel and glitter we use to mask our pain, our guilt, and our fear. Help us hear the words of Your angels, "Do not fear", and trust that you are with us. Forgive us. Fill us with your love. Amen.**

Leader: We are people who walk in darkness, but even in our darkness there is a light that the world can not diminish. The Light of God has come to us in Jesus Christ. It is the light of love, of life, of hope. If you hear nothing else during our worship today, hear this: that God loves you and forgives you and calls you to bear the light of Christ in your lives.

**People: Amen. Thanks be to God!!!**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: The Gospel of John speaks of Christ as the true light coming into the world. In celebration of this, we light candles for the four weeks leading to Christmas and reflect on the coming of Christ. Christ is always coming, always entering an anxious time, a troubled world, a wounded heart. And so today we light one candle, a candle of hope, and dare to express our longing for hope, for healing, and the well-being of creation.

**People: Loving God, as we enter this Advent season, we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the creative power of hope. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

## Scripture Readings

After each reading –

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### Isaiah 64: 1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
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!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

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.  
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.  
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.  
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.  
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Gospel Reading**

After reading – Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

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

[Jesus said:] 'In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. 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.

'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. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 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. 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, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

## Sermon

### Song "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

## Breakout Groups

### Prayers of the People

#### The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

#### Words of Institution

Leader: All praise to You, Emmanuel, God-promised, and God with us; Your light shines in our lives; your peace embraces our anger, sorrow, and loss; your life opens us to new discovery of ourselves and our neighbors.

O Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: Lord, Remember us in your love, and teach us to pray.

**ALL: 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**

#### Distribution of Communion

Leader: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

**ALL: Amen**

## **Benediction**

Leader: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Sending**

Leader: Go in hope to love and serve the Lord!

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

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