

Prelude: “Song for Sienna”; Free Lutheran Bible College Choir 2016 (with Jennifer Albright, member) Song #1
“**Jesus, the Light of the World/Hark the Herald**” (Humming and/or singing behind masks is acceptable.)

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Prayer of Confession

P: Let us pray... Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (brief silence)

L: Most merciful God

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.

Amen

Absolution: Words of Comfort & Forgiveness

Hymn of **Thanksgiving and Praise:** Free Lutheran Bible College Choir 2019-2020 (with Julia Albright, member) Song #6
“Amazing Grace” #448 LBW-green

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 80 Prayer for Restoration (*please pray responsively*)

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, **you who lead Joseph like a flock!**

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth, ²**before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.**

Stir up your might, **and come to save us!**

³Restore us, O God; **let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

⁴O LORD God of hosts, **how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears, **and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

⁶You make us the scorn of our neighbors; **our enemies laugh among themselves.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; **let your face shine, that we may be saved. Amen**

Prayer of the Day: Lord Christ, stir up your power in us and come into our lives. By your merciful protection awaken us to the dangers of this world, and keep us in your tender care until the coming of your new day. “Show us your steadfast love O Lord, and grant us your salvation.” (Psalm 85:7) We dare to ask, not because we are righteous or faithful, but because You are. You cover our shortcomings, presenting us as inheritors of your kingdom where you and the Father reign with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Invitation to participate in the prayers of the church: L: “Forgiven through grace and filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus by praying for the church, our nation, the world, those in need, and all of God’s creation. With longing and hopeful expectation, we bring our hopes and needs to our God who listens.” (brief silence)

Long-expected Savior, awaken us to the signs of your coming among all the people of the earth, knowing that your coming is nearer for some. Help us to always be ready to answer your call. Help us to hear your voice in unexpected people and places. Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

Savior of the Nations, come into our hearts, guard our minds from the tempter’s influence, especially in our youth and our children. Let justice and righteousness dwell in the hearts of our leaders, nationally, internationally and locally. Be with the families of our community, specifically we pray for protection and guidance in the families of Chuck & Anita Lucken, Nathan & Rochelle Mahlen, Mark & Julie Malmanger, Bill & Phyllis Malwitz, and Dustin & Sarah Manecke. Lord

in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

Creator of All, teach us to be in awe of life, of the sun, moon, stars, mountains, lakes and rivers, plants, and all creatures, and to be amazed at how each and everything complements each form of life. Affirm our faith through your mighty creative acts. Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

Love that is Divine, embrace all who are touched by plague and pestilence with your healing and merciful hand, leaving no doubt of your comforting presence in the midst of suffering, hardship, poverty, unemployment, illness or grief. We pray especially for (list.) Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

Giver of Grace, turn this community in faithfulness to your light in compassion to our neighbor, having experienced true forgiveness and mercy, empower us to extend the same grace to others. Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

Ruler of All, motivate us through faith this Advent season to celebrate the lives of the saints who have gone before us, to be enriched with spiritual gifts, to be armed with the power of your Word as we trust in your promises to fulfill all things in Christ Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn in preparation to hear the Word: Free Lutheran Bible College Choir 2016 (with Jennifer Albright, member) Song #1 "Wake Awake for Night is flying" (#31 LBW-green)

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 New Revised Standard Version

"O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—" *(quoted in Hebrews)* ² 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!

³When you did **awesome deeds that we did not expect**, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From 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.

⁵You 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.

⁶We 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.

⁷Is there 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.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; **we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.**

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and **do not remember iniquity forever**. Now consider, we are all your people.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way **you have been enriched in Him, in speech and knowledge** of every kind— ⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷so that you are **not lacking in any spiritual gift** as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸**He will also strengthen you** to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹**God is faithful**; by Him **you were called** into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

(In the new church Year B of Sundays and Seasons, the Gospel lessons are taken from St. Mark. This common Lutheran Lectionary among churches began in 1978 in obedience to Jesus' prayer in John 17:21 that "[we] should all be one" and as a way of uniting the worshipping world assembled in the around Gospel and Sacraments as indicated in the LBW-Lutheran Book of Worship, our green hymnal.)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105)

Songs 4 Worship Song #2 Blue Hymnal #184

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37 The Coming of the Son of Man

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then 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.

²⁸**"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. ²⁹ So also, **when you see** these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but **my words will not pass away.**

³² “But **about that day or hour no one knows**, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but **only the Father.**

³³ Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ 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.

³⁵ 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, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” (Psalm 119: 105)

CHILDREN’S SERMON & Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn of Faith: Free Lutheran Bible College Choir 2016 (with Jennifer Albright, member) Song #4

“Light A Candle Jesus is Coming (Celtic Advent Carol)

Be not afraid, I bring you good news. The Savior is coming in glory to you. He shall be called God’s Holy One. Will you be ready? Will you be ready? Will you be ready for Him when he comes?

Light the candle, Jesus is coming. Open your hearts, prepare the way. Sleepers awake, for soon He is coming. He will turn night into glorious day. He will turn night into day.

Be of good cheer and put away fear. The Light now is coming to dry every tear... Love now with us God. God’s perfect Son. Will you be ready? Will you be ready for him when he comes?

Veni Emmanuel, come and ransom Israel. Veni Immanuel. Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming. Could he be coming today?

Light the candle, Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming. Open your hearts, prepare the way. Sleepers awake, for soon He is coming... He will turn night into glorious day. He will turn night into day. Light the candle, Jesus is coming. Jesus is coming.

SERMON

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

P: THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU. **C: AND ALSO WITH YOU**

The 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

Benediction

P: God is made Man in the person of Jesus Christ, and God is with us!

C: And that makes all the difference!

Closing Hymn: Free Lutheran Bible College Choir 2016 (with Jennifer Albright, member) Song #5

“Nearer My God to Thee” (P. 553 CH-blue)

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks Be to God.**

Recessional: Christmas Up North Summit Hill Brass Quintet (with Pam Haugstul Humphrey on trumpet) song #1 **“Carol of the Bells”** & #3 Medley **“O Come All Ye Faithful/The First Noel/Hark the Herald Angels Sing”**