

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

MORNING PRAYER

ADVENT I – December 3, 2023

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

(This liturgy was compiled and written by the Rev. Matthew Kozlowski, 2015)

The First Sunday of Advent - *Hope*

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is *Hope*.

[**The candle is lit.**]

Psalm 33:20 – “We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.”

Let us pray: “**Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen.**”

Advent Hymn: O Come O Come Emmanuel (CP #89 Verse 1)

*O come, O come Emmanuel / and ransom captive Israel*

*That mourns in lowly exile here / until the Son of God appear*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! / Emmanuel*

*Shall come to thee / O Israel*

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

*Luke 21.28*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that 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 neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn: *Wait For The Lord Whose Day Is Near* (CP #94)

**MORNING PRAYER**

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

**Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.** **Alleluia!**

The kingdom of God is at hand: **O come, let us worship.**

**Invitatory** *- Psalm 67*

May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*

**show us the light of his countenance and come to us.**

Let your ways be known upon earth, \*

**your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*

**for you judge the peoples with equity**

**and guide all the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has brought forth her increase; \*

**may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

May God give us his blessing, \*

**and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: **as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

The kingdom of God is at hand: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of 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.

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

Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*

**shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*

**stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

O Lord God of hosts, \*

**how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*

**you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, \*

**and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*

**the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you; \*

**give us life, that we may call upon your name.**

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*

**show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the first letter to the 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.

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

Canticle 7 - *The New Jerusalem*

*Isaiah 60.1–3, 11ab, 14cd, 18–19*

Arise, shine, for your light has come; \*

**the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Though night still covers the earth \*

**and darkness covers the nations,**

Over you will the Lord arise, \*

**over you will his glory appear.**

Nations will stream to your light \*

**and kings to your dawning brightness.**

Your gates will always be open; \*

**day or night, they will never be shut.**

They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*

**The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.**

Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*

**ruin or destruction within your borders;**

you will name your walls, Salvation, \*

**you will call your gates, Praise.**

No longer will the sun be your light by day, \*

**no longer the moon give you light by night;**

the Lord will be your eternal light; \*

**your God will be your glory.**

Hymn: *O God Our Help In Ages Past* (CP #528)

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Mark (13:24–37). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

“But 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.”

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The 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 to the dead. 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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, “Lord Jesus, come soon!”

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God. **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

For our own needs and those of others. [***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***] **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

**[*Silence. Take a moment to offer up your own thanksgivings to God.*]**

**Lord Jesus, come soon!**

*Gracious God,*

*you have heard the prayers of your faithful people; you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Grant our requests as may be best for us. This we ask in the name of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.* ***Amen****.*

Collect

*Almighty God,*

*give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns*

*with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn:  *God Whose Almighty Word* (CP #560)

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**