

**First Sunday of Advent
1 December 2024**

**HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Zoom by Telephone Dial 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #



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**+ HOLY COMMUNION – SETTING FIVE +**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

“Saviour of the Nations, Come” (#263) Anton Heiller

**GATHERING**

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**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the house owner had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. Therefore, you must also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming unexpectedly. (Matthew 24:42-44)

**HYMN** Saviour of the Nations Come (verse 1 and 2) **No. 263**

**ADVENT CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** In the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P The Lord of Advent tells us to be watchful for his coming, keeping our lamps lighted and our hearts clean. Therefore, let us confess to the Lord.

*Silence for reflection.*

P God and Father of all:

**C We prepare our hearts for the coming of your Son, confessing our sins, confessing our attraction to a godless world that does not know Christ. Forgive our sins, cleanse our hearts, and keep us faithful for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of + Christ, who came and will come again.

**C Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding! **No. 246**

**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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**ADVENT KYRIE**

A O Lord, have mercy and come to us.

**C Come, Lord Jesus.**

A O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation:

**C Come and teach us the way of prudence.**

A O Adonai and Ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:

**C Come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.**

A O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

**C Come quickly to deliver us.**

A O Emmanuel, our King and our Lawgiver, the anointed of the nations and their Saviour:

**C Come and save us, O Lord our God.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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P We pray. 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.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**FIRST LESSON**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

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. 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. 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."

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Sung*

**Psalm 25:1-10**

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

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

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

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

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,  
and to the | Holy Spirit;

as it was in the begin-| ning, is now  
and will be forever. | Amen.

## SECOND LESSON      1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. 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. 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.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Please stand as you are able.*      Pg. 160

## THE HOLY GOSPEL      Luke 21:25-36

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

“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. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 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.”

P The gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying **No. 436**

## BAPTISM

### BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH:

Aaron Schnell, Simret Bogale, Blake Ford, Walter Anderson,  
Eden Tang, Nicky Mutschlechner, Al Gummo, Thelma Jung

### BAPTISM OF CALCIFER GULICK

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**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *Please stand as you are able.*

The response to “*Lord, in your mercy*” is “**hear our prayer.**”

A As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A Grow peace within us, abundant God. Raise up leaders in every community grounded in your justice and mercy. Increase their love for all people. Bring an end to war in Ukraine, and all countries experiencing the terror of war. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A You provide shepherds for your flock, merciful God. Thank you for the service to your Church provided by our pastor, Rev. Michael Wellman, as he celebrates 16 years of ordination today. Protect him and his family as they walk with you in obedience, and love of your will. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A You are our beginning and end. Soothe the afflicted, comfort the distressed, console the bereaved, and heal the sick, especially: Anna Berwanger, Simret Bogale, Chrystine Cuch, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Ruth Gummo, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Genevieve Janssen, Julie Janssen Downe, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larsen, Amy Lynch, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Jim and Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, Sam Skogen, those we name aloud ... and those we

carry in our hearts. Give all who provide care a measure of your compassion and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A For those who serve in the holy catholic Church:

- for Bishop Susan Johnson, National Bishop of the ELCIC, and for the National Church staff
- for Northern Area Leadership Team, pastors, people and Dean, Rev. Anna Thede
- for our Synod Campus Ministries and especially for Rev. Richard Reimer, Chaplain for the University of Alberta, Edmonton and for Dana Rayment, Chaplain for NAIT and MacEwan, Edmonton
- for our synod candidates for ministry
- for Lutheran Church of the Master, Airdrie, and St John's Lutheran, Alberta Beach
- for our Companion Synod, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia, Bishop Ata, the national staff, its pastors, leaders, and people
- for Canadian Lutheran World Relief
- for the pastors and people of the Anglican, Mennonite, and Moravian Churches

For all these, Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A For all virtually gathered for this service, and those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshipping, Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ , our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

### OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** "A Shoot Shall Come Forth" by Richard Horn  
*Setting of the altar and reception of the Offerings.*  
*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING PRAYER FOR ADVENT**

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God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (III)**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (Version II)**

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**THE FRACTION**

**P** This is the body of the One foretold by the prophets. This is the blood of Him who will return for you at the end of time.

**C** **Come to us now, O Lord, in the breaking of bread. As once you were born in a manger in Bethlehem, come to us again in the manger of our hands and hearts. Amen.**

**LAMB OF GOD**

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**THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Please be seated. Assistants and those in need commune first.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

**No. 241**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

**No. 244**

**TABLE BLESSING** *Please stand as you are able.*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**A** We pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

**BENEDICTION**

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**C Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** Fling Wide the Door

**No. 259**

**DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace...

**C Thanks be to God!**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

“Wake! Awake! For Night is Flying” (#436) arr. J.S. Bach



**WELCOME** to all gathered here today. Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today’s servants or speak with the pastor.

**WE THANK TODAY’S SERVANTS**

- Usher: Art Wildeman
- Lector: Art Wildeman
- Assistant: Jerry Rasmusson
- Altar Guild: Clarice Rasmuson, Jennifer Hanson
- Refreshments: David Richardson, Shannon Friesen
- Zoom Host: Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

**OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE**

|               |             |             |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| Last week     | 24 November | Budget 2024 |
| Current       | \$ 1,034    | \$2,911     |
| Benevolence   | \$ 0        |             |
| Building Fund | \$ 10       |             |
| Other         | \$ 275      |             |
| Attendance    | 38          |             |

**ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

|           |       |          |                                                   |
|-----------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Today     | 1 Dec | 11:45 PM | Fellowship and Refreshments                       |
|           |       | 2:00 PM  | CFMA Worship                                      |
|           |       | 7:00 PM  | Advent Lessons and Carols                         |
| Monday    | 2 Dec | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program                                   |
| Tuesday   | 3 Dec | 6:30 PM  | Never Alone Peer Support                          |
| Wednesday | 4 Dec | 9:30 AM  | 12 Step Program                                   |
|           |       | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program                                   |
| Friday    | 6 Dec | 7:00 PM  | 12 Step Program                                   |
| Saturday  | 7 Dec | 9:00 AM  | House of Hope Worship                             |
| Sunday    | 8 Dec | 10:30 AM | Second Sunday of Advent<br>Holy Communion Service |



**ADVENT LESSONS AND HYMNS SERVICE** – As we prepare for the Advent season, join us at Highwood tonight, Sunday 1 December 2024 at 7:00 PM. Family and friends are welcome to attend. The concert is free, however as you are able, non-perishable or cash donations to the Food Bank are appreciated. Refreshments are provided.

**MITTEN TREE** – a reminder to all knitters, crocheters, and quilters: the tree is up for donations of scarves, toques, mittens.

**DROP-IN CENTRE DONATIONS**– the boxes for new warm socks for men and women are upstairs in the narthex.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** “A Starry Night” 7:00 PM Friday, 6 December at the Scandinavian Centre (739 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW. Calgary). \$10/person over age 16. See poster downstairs.

**THE MEN’S BREAKFAST GROUP** will meet on Saturday, 7 December at 10:00 AM at Ace Casino Airport. Bring a friend to join in the fellowship. Sign-up list downstairs.

**FESTIVAL CHORUS CONCERT** – “Now & Then” - *Beloved Seasonal Music Mixed with New Winter Favourites*. Saturday, 7 December 7:30 PM at Knox United Church (506 – 4 Street SW, Calgary).

**CAMPUS MINISTRY** – Pr. Margaret Koizumi, our Campus Chaplain in Calgary, announced that their goal for the 2024 Campus Ministry Fundraiser was \$15,000. To date, a total of \$22,000 has been raised! Thank you everyone for your support.

**ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS** – is sponsored by the Elders. Details are included in the handout.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** – Donations are gratefully accepted and can be added to your offering envelope.

|                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>NEXT WEEK’S READINGS</b> | Second Sunday of Advent |
| Malachi 3:1-4               | Luke 1:68-79            |
| Philippians 1:3-11          | Luke 3:1-6              |

**Please Note**

**Angle parking along Northmount Drive across from the church is no longer allowed due to a recent complaint and subsequent enforcement by the City of Calgary.**