

SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH

3419 Grand Avenue . San Marcos, CA 92078 . (760) 727-1509 . www.sanmarcoslutheran.org

Deacon Margy Schmitt Ajer

First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Our mission is to know, accept, and live the love of God, and share it with others.

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, we welcome you!

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME/COMMUNITY TIME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wonderous things.

Blessed be God's name forever. Amen

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins,

and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence for reflection

God of new beginnings,

We confess that we have now welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love,

That we may bear fruit worthy of repentance and welcome your coming among us. Amen.

People of God,

A new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✝ Christ, and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN (*stand*)

“People Look East”



1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare. one more seed is plant - ed
3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall
4. An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to



year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the
there. Give up your strength the seed to nour-ish, that in course the flow'r may
brim, shin-ing be - yond the frost - y weath-er, bright as sun and moon to -
earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley humming with the word, the Lord is



ta - ble. Peo-ple look east and sing to - day— Love the Guest, is on the way.
flour - ish. Love the Rose, is on the way.
geth - er. Love the Star, is on the way.
com - ing. Love the Lord, is on the way.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



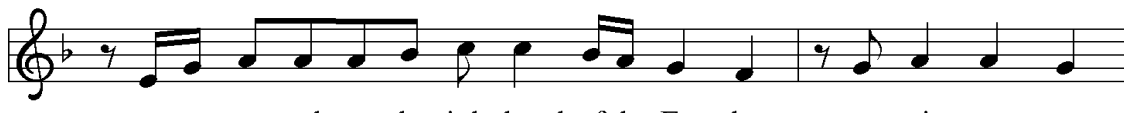
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray....

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you love and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

BLESSING: Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake in the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

ADVENT SONG- VERSE 1

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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SECOND READING

Romans 13:11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Alleluia”

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 24th Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Stirring Up Hope”

He Came Down

The musical score for 'He Came Down' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 7/8. The first system contains the first four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the final four lines. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) in both the vocal and bass parts.

1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;

he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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CREED Apostles 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 INTERCESSION

The assembly is invited into prayer: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope. (A brief silence)

After each petition, 'God, in your mercy' ... "hear our prayer." God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of peace

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Lo How Rose” arr. by Dan Burton

Max Chodos/Harpist

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Eternal God,

You make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money

and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (*sit*)

Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God, who has come to save you.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

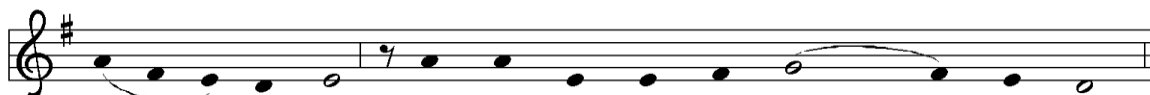
COMMUNION HYMN

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

(Verses 1-2)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

TABLE BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep, and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God,

In this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

1. Come, thou long ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"People Look East" Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Koln, 1710; tr. Composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2,6,7 @1997 Augsburg Fortress

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788; Music: JEFFERSON; W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Liturgist: Deacon Margy Schmitt Ajer

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Lector: Esther Daniels

Musicians: Jenny Yun and Max Chodos

Ushers: Diana and Don Arney

All are welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)

Let Us Keep These People in Our Prayers: Eleanor Adcock, Jerry Farrell, Owen Frantz, Linda Kent, Cassi Kidd, Gwen, Victoria Kautz, Ray & Judith Moore, Mark McGregor. Rene, Randy Sensmeier, Roy Smith, Vern Soderstrom and Martha Stover. We pray for Eleanor Adcock and family at the recent passing of Cliff Adcock.

Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, the people and refugees of Ukraine and Russia, and those affected by the Hurricane in Florida and beyond.

Thank you for your Financial Support!

Just a reminder that the ministries of San Marcos Lutheran have continued through all the transitions of the last few years. We are grateful for all that you have done, and all that you have given. As we reinvigorate our ministries of worship, faith formation, evangelism, and social action, and as we prepare for a new chapter of ministry with a new pastor, it is vitally important that we remain financially healthy.

Please prayerfully consider what you can offer to the work of this congregation, as we seek to serve God's mission. Thank you for being a part of this community of faith!

(Offerings are accepted through your own bank's electronic banking, through our web page, by mail (SMLC 3419 Grand Ave, San Marcos, CA 92708) or by putting your offering in the offering plate on Sunday morning)

WE ARE ABLE TO RECEIVE YOUR OFFERINGS through Pay Pal or major credit and debit cards. Donations can be made by using the "Donate" tab found on San Marcos Lutheran's web page. Download a QR reader to use this code to contribute from your phone.



"HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS," a Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services project is collecting financial donations to be sent to LIRS to provide Christmas gifts for children in the refugee detention centers. Checks should be made payable to San Marcos Lutheran Church with a note in the memo line, *LIRS Hope for the Holidays*. Donations will be accepted through December 18th. This is one more way to celebrate together what it means to be a community of faith and followers of Jesus.

ADULT FORUM- meets every Sunday at 10am in Luther Hall. Hope to see you there! Schedule of events for the next few weeks:

- Sun, December 4 SPECIAL CONGERGATIONAL MEETINGS
- Sun, December 11 Advent Devotion, Sing-along with Hand Chimes, and Sharing of Childhood Christmas treats led by Karin Kupka
- Sun, December 18 Scripture and Song: Handel's Messiah led by retired Pastor Dave Kupka
- Sun, December 25 Christmas Day (no Adult Forum)
- Sun, January 1 New Year's Day (no Adult Forum)

IMPORTANT UPCOMING MEETINGS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Saturday, December 3rd at 3:00pm Luther Hall --- Meet & Greet with recommended Pastoral Candidate

Sunday, December 4th at 10:00am in Luther Hall-- Special Congregational Meeting – Pastoral recommendation of call committee

- Vote to extend call to Pastoral Candidate
- Vote to approve compensation package

Sunday, December 4th at 10:30am in Luther Hall--Congregational Meeting to nominate and elect new Congregational Council members