

# SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH

3419 Grand Avenue . San Marcos, CA 92078 . (760) 727-1509 . [www.sanmarcoslutheran.org](http://www.sanmarcoslutheran.org)

Deacon Margy Schmitt Ajer

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 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

“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” Setting by Anne Krentz Organ

**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*)

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”



1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es that the Lord is nigh;  
2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the way for God with - in,  
3. We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge and our great re - ward;  
4. Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us rise to fall no more;  
5. All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent has our free - dom won,



a - wake and heark - en, for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
and let us all our hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
with - out your grace we waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
oh, let your face up - on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

**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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his homing nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**BLESSING:** Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again. You fasten righteousness around your waist and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire. Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames, and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare. We ask that peace abound, until none hurt or destroy over all the earth. Amen.

ADVENT SONG- VERSE 1-2

## 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  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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**SECOND READING**

Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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 3rd Chapter  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

HYMN (*stand*)

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! “Christ is near,” we hear it say.  
 2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth’s bond-age let us rise;  
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, come with par - don down from heav’n.  
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son

“Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!”  
 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.  
 Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv’n;  
 he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.  
 with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878  
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

**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

“I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say” by Paul Bouman

SMLC Choir

## 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.

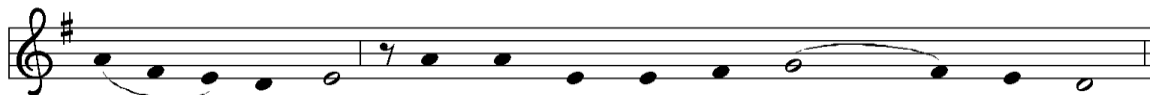
**COMMUNION HYMN**

**“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”**

(Verses 3-4)



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

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”



1. “Com - fort, com - fort, now my peo - ple; tell of peace!” now says our God.  
2. Hark! the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing In the des - ert far and near,  
3. Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing un - der sor - rows’ load.  
call - ing all to true re - pent - ance since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To God’s peo - ple now pro - claim that God’s par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a - way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord Now o’er earth is shed a - broad.



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
Val - leys rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Allegro” from Sonata L.90 by Domenico Scarlatti, Arr. L. Smith

“On Jordan’s Bank” Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; Music: TPUER NOBI; European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Koln, 1710; tr. Composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15<sup>th</sup> cent. Text sts. 2,6,7 @1997 Augsburg Fortress

“Comfort, Comfort, Now My People” Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Music: FREU DICH SEHR; *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Liturgist: Deacon Margy Schmitt Ajer

Presider: Bishop David Nagler

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Lector: Pastor Fran Olson

Musicians: Doris Payne and Max Chodos

Ushers: Sharon McEwan and Jack Anderson

*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.

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 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 CONGREGATIONAL 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)

**CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING-** Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> following the 11am service. Join us as we decorate our sanctuary tree and spend time together in preparation for Christmas.

**Lutheran Fellowship Lunch Hour-** All Are invited to attend our Lutheran fellowship luncheon with First Lutheran Church. We will meet at Pegah's Kitchen at 955 S.Santa Fe in Vista. Our next meeting will be Monday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon. We will meet at the restaurant and have lunch and fellowship. It will be order from the menu. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, contact Bill Hanson 760-805-4565.