

# **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

**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 11, 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 "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" by Geonyong Lee (see hymn #247) arr. Anne Krentz Organ

## **GATHERING**

### **WELCOME/COMMUNITY TIME**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous 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 not 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*)

All Earth Is Hopeful  
*Toda la tierra*



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor  
1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!  
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:  
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;  
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el  
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the  
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -  
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most  
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -  
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how  
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -  
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All  
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.  
God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.  
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.  
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!  
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

2 *Dice el profeta al pueblo de Israel:* 3 *Montes y valles habrá que preparar;*  
*"De madre virgen ya viene Emmanuel,"* *nuevos caminos tenemos que trazar.*  
*será "Dios con nosotros," hermano será,* *Él está ya muy cerca, venidlo a encontrar,*  
*con él la esperanza al mundo volverá.* *y todas las puertas abrid de par en par.*

4 *En una cueva Jesús apareció,*  
*pero en el mundo está presente hoy.*  
*Vive en nuestros hermanos, con ellos está;*  
*y vuelve de nuevo a darnos libertad.*

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946  
Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé  
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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



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



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 the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; 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 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**BLESSING:** Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow. You bring water to parched ground and life out of death. Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to flee away. Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises. Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand. Amen.

### ADVENT SONG- VERSE 1-3

## 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**

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

“Stirring Up Joy”

HYMN (*stand*)

“Canticle of the Turning”

Verses



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is great,
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us fast:



And my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 And your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 Let the king be - ware for your jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne.  
 God's mer - cy must de - liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my weak - ness you did not spurn,  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,  
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can nev - er earn;  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the prom - ise which holds us bound,



So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn!

**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

“Comfort My People” by Ian Callanan

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”

Hymnal #257

(Verses 5-6)

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. Refrain
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain

*Refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.

**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

“Joy to the World”



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2. Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all our  
3. No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness, and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“In Dulce Jubilo” arr. Hal Leonard

“Canticle of the Turning” Text: Luke 1:46-58; Rory Cooney, b.1952 Music: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN; Irish traditional; arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952 © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

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

“Joy to the World” Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; Music: ANTIOCH; English melody, 18th cent.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Liturgist: Deacon Margy Schmitt Ajer

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Lector: Grace Holtz

Musicians: Doris Payne and Max Chodos

*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, Alvar Roy, Randy Sensmeier, Roy Smith, and Vern Soderstrom.

Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, Carol Schwartz and Martha Stover. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

### **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 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-** TODAY following the 11am service. Join us as we decorate our sanctuary tree and spend time together in preparation for Christmas.

### **Upcoming Christmas Services:**

- Christmas Eve, 7:00 pm.- Communion & Candlelight
- Christmas Day, 10:00 am- Lessons & Carols
- New Years Day Sunday, 10:00am- Epiphany

**ALL SAINTS FOOD PANTRY-** December ideas. We can always use macaroni and cheese. We expect to be provided with ground meat, so boxes of Hamburger Helper would be nice. If you donate bread, we can put it in the freezer until our distribution days (Dec.17th and 24th). We have freezer space available, so if you'd like to donate frozen pies for Christmas, that would be quite a treat! Again, cleaning supplies are not provided by Brother Benno's or the San Diego Food Bank, so any of those items are always appreciated. We invite you to stop by All Saints Church (651 Eucalyptus Avenue in Vista) on the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of the month, especially between 10:30am-11:30am. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important ministry. If you have questions, please contact Jill Adachi or Doris Payne.