

BOB'S COVER

WELCOME!



Everyone is welcome. As a community of the people of God, the members of Central 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 or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email info@centralmpls.org.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at sanctuary entrances. If you would prefer to use Central’s nursery (available for children ages four and younger), you will find it up the steps from the information desk at the south entrance (across from the fellowship hall). An usher or greeter will be glad to assist you.

Welcome to the Lord’s Table. All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

We envision becoming a thriving, vibrant model of urban Lutheran ministry for the 21st century. This lofty vision requires us to ask each day if our goals for worship, learning, and service are clearly reaching a diverse neighborhood and city in language and action that reflect the world as well as our heritage.



Large print service folders,
assisted listening devices, and access seating
are available to aid your participation in worship.
Please inquire with an usher.





HOLY COMMUNION

First Sunday of Advent
 November 29, 2009 + 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Central - in the heart of the city, welcomes all people to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ

A tiny branch springs up from the tree of David

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of our Lord in word and supper.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

J. S. Bach

The carillon calls the assembly to worship.

At the sound of the carillon, the assembly stands and faces the entrance.

ENTRANCE RITE

Solo: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Solo: Shepherd of Israel leading Jo - seph like a flock:
 Raise up your might, O God, come to our aid:
 We wait for your lovingkindness, O Lord in the midst of your temple:
 A voice cries, "In the wilderness pre - pare the way of the Lord!
 The glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it to - gether:

Stir up your strength, O Lord, and come!

CE
 RD
 JSU

Each week of Advent we sing a stanza of Luther's paraphrase of St. Ambrose's hymn, our theme for this Advent.

Solo: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Sa-vior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's son, make here your home. Mar-vel now, O heav'n and earth: God has cho - sen such a birth!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546
 Music: Johann Walter, *Geistliche Gesangbüchlein*, 1524

GREETING

- P** From the One who was, and who is, and who is to come: Grace and peace be with you all.
- A** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** ...one God, now and forever.
- A** Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A righteous branch springing up from David

In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name — "The Lord is our righteousness" — proclaims that the Lord is even now working salvation for Israel. (pew bible, front page 696)

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.
¹⁵In 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.
¹⁶In 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."

- The word of the Lord.
- A** Thanks be to God.

A Refrain

All Refrain

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my
God I put my trust in you.

A To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.

All Refrain

A ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

All Refrain

A ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

All Refrain

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Strengthen hearts of holiness for the coming of the Lord

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church. (pew bible, back page 180)

Paul writes:

How can we thank God enough for you
in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you?

¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face
and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus
direct our way to you.

¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love
for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.

¹³And 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.

The word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 21:28

sung first by the choir, then repeated by all:

All *Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Choir *Stand up and raise your heads —
your redemption is drawing near.*

All *Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!*

GOSPEL

Be alert for the coming of the Son of Man

Luke 21:25-36

The holy gospel according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption. (pew bible, back page 74)



Jesus said:

²⁵“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. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable:

“Look at the fig tree and all the trees;

³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.

³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.

³⁶Be 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Kristen Jacobson

“The Days Are Surely Coming”

silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY

(hymn) 436

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”



APOSTLES' CREED

A We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

AD **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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P As people called out of darkness,
let us confess our sin and seek mercy from the God of justice and
righteousness.

silence for self-examination

P I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed. I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life.

AD **Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon,
and forgiveness of all your sin. Amen.**

AD **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own
fault in thought, word, and deed. I pray God Almighty to have mercy
on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life.**

P Almighty and merciful God
grant you healing, pardon,
and forgiveness of all your sin. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Waiting and watching for our sure and certain hope,
let us pray for the world redeemed,
the church reformed,
and for all people restored in the coming one.

after each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,

AD **hear our prayer.**

MEAL

*God feeds us
with the presence
of Jesus Christ*

PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
AD **And also with you.**
Please be seated.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, bread, wine, money, and other gifts are brought forward.
The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.*

“Come, Thou Dear Redeemer” (8:30)

César Franck

*Come thou, dear redeemer. Come, Lord Jesus, to set us free.
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Hope of all the earth thou art, joy of every longing heart.
Come thou, dear redeemer, born a child, yet thou art a king.
Born to reign in us forever. Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
Rule in all our hearts alone, raise us to thy glorious throne. Amen.*

“E’en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come” (11:00)

Paul Manz

*Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.
Sing Holy, Holy Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come;
Sing Holy, Holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell herein,
rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon,
for Christ is coming soon! E’en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
and might will be no more; They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
for Christ will be their all!*

Offertory Prayer

- A** Let us pray together.
AD **God of faithfulness, we bring before you
the precious gifts 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 Savior. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
AD **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
AD **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
AD **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of might!". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Heav'n and earth re - flect your glo - ry,". The notes are simple quarter and eighth notes with a few ties.

During Advent, portions of the liturgy (i.e. the Gospel Verse, “Holy, Holy, Holy” and “Lamb of God”) will be sung to Gregorian tunes traditionally associated with the season.



All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Communion at this service is served kneeling (as you are able) by individual chalices around the communion rail.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request.

ho - - san - na in the heights!
Bless - ed is he who comes - - - -
in the name of the Lord! Ho - san-na in the high-est!

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1975)

A 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.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table

Communion

Lamb of God

O Lamb of God, Lord Je - sus Christ,
have mer - cy on your peo - ple here;
you take cre - a - tion's sin a - way,
grant us your peace, hear us, we pray.

Music during Communion

"Benedictus" from *The Armed Man: a Mass for Peace*
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Karl Jenkins

Prayer after Communion

A Amen.
silence for reflection

God blesses and sends us
in mission to the world



SENDING

BLESSING

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
A **Thanks be to God.**

- P** The God of hope strengthen your hearts
as you await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all the saints.
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
A **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

(hymn) **244**
stanzas 2 & 3 in harmony

DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace. Prepare the way.
A **Thanks be to God.**

*The carillon sends the assembly into mission.
Please gather for fellowship following worship in the fellowship hall or south commons.
Brief sanctuary tours will be offered this morning following the postlude.
Gather at the pulpit.*

POSTLUDE

In this reflective season, you are invited to be seated for the postlude.

"Prelude in e minor"

Nikolaus Bruhns

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Chancel flowers today are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to donate flowers contact Gloria Hahn ten days in advance at 952-545-6109.

SERVING TODAY



Pastor D. Foy Christopherson	<i>presiding</i>
Pastor Kristen Jacobson	<i>preaching</i>
Allison Windblad	<i>assisting minister</i>
Dick Hilden	<i>intercessor</i>
Mark Sedio	<i>cantor/organist</i>
Jane Lien	<i>associate cantor</i>
Reid Henderson	<i>soloist</i>
Debra Thelen	<i>reader (8:30)</i>
Brad Boogren	<i>crucifer (8:30)</i>
David Molvik	<i>sound operator (8:30)</i>
Betty Bergland	<i>reader (11:00)</i>
Joan Hilden	<i>crucifer (11:00)</i>
Central Choir	<i>choir (11:00)</i>
Mark Brodin	<i>sound operator (11:00)</i>
Richard Stegall	<i>sacristan</i>
Steve Langmo	<i>radio announcer</i>
Bob Boldt	<i>cover design</i>
Karin Lilleodden, Pramila Nelson, Phil Ranheim, Barb Hoernemann, Judy Berge, Rebecca Sundquist, Rick Johnston	<i>communion ministers</i>
Shanti Austvold, Patti Brestrup, Larry Peterson & Lois Steer, Chuck & Joyce Anderson	<i>hosts and greeters</i>
Kris Stedje, Christopher Haug, David Nelson, Michael Wickman	<i>seasonal environment</i>
Phil & Laura Holst, Trudy Ness, Mary Jo Olson, Michael Wickman, Richard Stegall, David West	<i>seasonal worship team</i>

Sunday worship is broadcast locally on WDGY 740 AM at 11 a.m.; or listen online from anywhere at wdgyradio.com. To sponsor a Sunday morning radio broadcast or refreshments in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion, contact Barbara Brown at 612.767-9210.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Grace abounds.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
*in the heart of the city, welcomes all people
to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*
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Office – 612.870-4416 • Infoline – 612.767-9101 • www.centralmpls.org

