



Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

Sunday December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

**We're glad that you are here
as part of worship.**

We gather for worship called by God's Spirit from many places of compass and heart. We bring stories of where God has met and sustained us along the way. We bring questions and yearnings to see God's presence more fully in our world. We are brought together by a God who knows us as Creator, and who gathers us as only a Good Shepherd can—to lead us into what it means to be God's people here in this place.

As God's people, we are continually learning what it means to be truly encouraging and supportive to all. We are committed to care for, to love, to understand, and to listen to each other, regardless of ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, social or economic status. To all we extend a heartfelt invitation to join us on this journey, as partners in the full life and ministry of Christ the Servant.

Children are welcome in worship.

There are children's bulletins and crayons available at the ushers' station. As well as Worship Bags just outside the entrance to the sanctuary. A small room on the right of the sanctuary is available for families with infants or small children who become restless. It has books, toys, rocking chair, window and a speaker to hear the service.

Childcare is available from 9:15-11:00. Ask an usher for directions to the nursery.

We hope that you will feel at home.

We would like to know you better and learn of any needs you may have. We hope you feel Christ's welcome in our service, and hope to see you again soon. You will find contact information for clergy and staff on the back page of this bulletin.

Land Acknowledgement

We gather on the ancestral land of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Lummi, Nooksack, and Semiahmoo, who have lived in this region since time immemorial. May we live consciously and respectfully, honoring our Coast Salish neighbors.

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Prelude

Welcome and announcements

Opening Hymn *Blessed Be the God of Israel* ELW 250

Greeting

We gather in the name of God, the Creator of Light; + Jesus, the Light of the World; and the Holy Spirit, the Light who illumines our path.

Amen.

Prayer of Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming 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.

Lighting of Advent Candles

We give thanks for the light of Christ, shining in the lives of all God's people.

With the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah, we watch and wait for the coming of Christ who will bring light and peace to all the world.

With John the Baptist, we cry out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord! Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

HYMN *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Verse 2)* ELW 257

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

WORD

Children's Message

Today's Children's message is "Second Sunday in Advent: The Holy Family Enters Bethlehem."

Children's Advent Prayer (Sung to the tune of Frere Jacques)

Light of Jesus **Echo: Light of Jesus,**

Show the way **Show the way.**

Shine in us forever **Shine in us forever,**

This we pray **This we pray.**

Following the children's message, children ages 3-8 are welcome to join us for Children's Chapel. Children return to the sanctuary at the Offering.

Children's Blessing

Go in peace, have fun, and learn. AMEN.

First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The 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.

³His 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;

⁴but 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.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The 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.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They 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.

¹⁰On 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever 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. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For 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, ⁹and 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”;

¹⁰and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹²and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

¹³May 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord most high!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord most high!

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, Lord most high!

Gospel

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This 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.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But 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? ⁸Bear

fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do 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. ¹⁰Even 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.

¹¹"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.

¹²His 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.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

ELW 249

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

O God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation (local examples may be named). We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O God, we praise and thank you for the faithful in our own congregation. This week we pray especially for **Anita Stouffer, Tom and Karen Stuen, and Tm Surrat**. Let the peace of Christ rule their hearts and let your holy word dwell in them richly. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, you embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness, especially our sister, Jeanne Burt. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. 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.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Offering Music Servant Singers

Confession of Sin and Gift of Forgiveness

As we await the fullness of Christ's coming and prepare to share in a foretaste of the great feast to come, let us acknowledge our sin and failures before God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Our impatience for your coming, **we confess to you, Lord.**

Our desire to control time and seasons, **we confess to you, Lord.**

Our failure to be alert to signs of your presence in our midst, **we confess to you, Lord.**

Our lack of concern for those who come after us, **we confess to you, Lord.**

Our injustices toward all the people you came to save, **we confess to you, Lord.**

In the mercy of almighty God, I declare to you the forgiveness of your sins, and the grace to know joy in the Savior's coming.

Amen.

MEAL

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.

Holy God, the beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At the end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

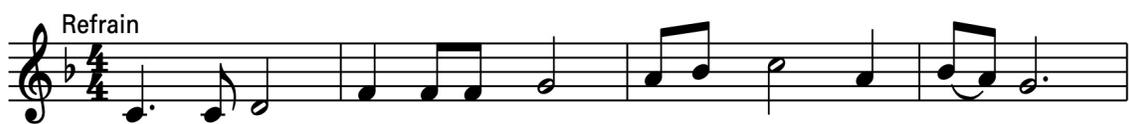
**For the kingdom, the power,
✠ and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Table Prayer

**Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blessed.
May there be a goodly share on every table everywhere. Amen.**

BREAD OF LIFE (ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SETTING)

Bernadette Farrell



Bread of life, hope of the world, Je-sus Christ, our broth - er:



feed us now, give us life, lead us to one an - oth - er.



- *Verses
1. Be with your peo-ple, Lord, send us your sav-ing Word: Je - sus
 2. Bring to our world of fear the truth we long to hear: Je - sus
 3. A child is born for us, a son is giv'n to us, In our
 4. With our own eyes we see, with our own ears we hear The sal-
 5. You are the hope of all, our prom-ise and our call, Ra-diant



- to Refrain
1. Christ, light of glad - ness, come a - mong us now.
 2. Christ, hope of a - ges, come to save us now.
 3. midst, Christ, our Lord and God comes as one who serves.
 4. va - tion of all the world, God's in - car - nate Word.
 5. light in our dark - ness, truth to set us free.

Post-communion Blessing

Post-communion Prayer

Together, let us pray,

Lord God you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

Sending Hymn

All Earth is Hopeful

ELW 266

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgements

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT EDUCATION TODAY!

Our topic will be "Prayer" and will be lead by pastor Deanna.

EXTENDED CHILDCARE and BRIDGE Today 10:45-11:45

Children Birth-8 are invited to play in the gym under the care of our childcare staff from 10:45-11:45.

Children 3rd-5th grade are invited to join the Bridge (Youth Group/Sunday School) for a meeting. Today we'll be looking at what "Our father in Heaven" means for us as children of God.

Graveside Service for Jeanne Burt TODAY, Sunday, December 4 @ 1:00 PM

Union Cemetery: 1450 Wicker Road, Sedro Woolley
Pastor Deanna will preside.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER and SONG ("Holden Evening Prayer")

7:00 PM, Wednesdays in Advent
Dec. 7, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT: Sunday December 11 during the 9:30 Service Rehearsal December 10, 10:30 AM (Optional for younger children)

Pick costumes TODAY during children's chapel or after services
Children and youth of all ages, along with teen and adult helpers, are invited to participate in a simple no-stress, no-lines Children's Christmas Pageant.

CORRECTION: TWIN beds needed for Interfaith Coalition

Last week's announcement was inaccurate: Interfaith coalition is looking for three TWIN beds (not bunk beds), and the beds are needed for housing not related to Jeff's Hope House. Please contact Rick Gordon if you're able to donate a twin bed rickgordon49@comcast.net.

Help Deliver Christmas baskets for Seniors

Health ministries thanks you for your donations to the Christmas baskets for seniors. If you can help deliver baskets, please contact Tisch Lynch at tisch.lynch@icloud.com

THANK YOU, PASTOR REBECCA! (Corrected mailing address)

Transition Facilitator Pr. Rebecca Langholz has ended her time with CTS. Thank You cards can be sent to Zion Lutheran Church: P.O. Box 434, Custer, WA, 98240

PLEASE REMEMBER AS YOU PRAY

Pastor Deanna, Pastor Andy Yee, the Council, and the Call Committee as the transition and call process continue.

For the eternal rest of **Jeanne Burt**, who died and entered glory on November 17.

Mary Hess and her family in the loss of her mother, **Joan Chionis**.

The **Sebens family: Ben, Brenna, Bentley, and Bryce**.

The **Cargill Family: Zach, Marguerite, Leif, Sven, and Bjorn**.

Ginger, mother of **Kori Fish**, as she enters hospice care.

Baker Ennen, Granddaughter of Patti and David Ennen, as she struggles with Crohn's Disease resulting in delayed growth and related complications; prayers for the medical team at Swedish, her parents Nate and Kate, brother Bode.

Jon Ross, son-in-law of Doug and Char Sutton, as he battles long Covid.

Healing and patience for **John Reitz's daughter and her partner** as they confront her partner's recent MS diagnosis and treatment.

Diann Christey, as she recovers from back surgery and a recent fall.

Phil Christey, weaning off steroids for six months and we pray his heart inflammation will not come back.

John J. Chionis brother of Mary Hess, for healing from cancer treatments and that he might regain strength to use his hands and arms again.

Amy Raduege enduring intense nerve pain, hoping for effective medical treatment.

Our friends in La Mica, Honduras and their water project.

"Jeff's House" Leadership team as they raise funds for Jeff's House and work on repairs.

Bob Ham for strength during dialysis and progressing Parkinson's.

Lynn McKinster thanksgiving for her current remission from Multiple Myeloma.

Carol Ebergson as she enters hospice care.

And our residents at local Senior Living or care centers: **Sophie Mueller, Ruthann Jensen, Phyllis Segren, Anita Stoffer, Shirley Abt**



Serving Sunday December 4	
Presider	Pr Deanna Wildermuth
Reader/ Assistant Minister	Ilene Green
Pianist	Cindy Henninger
Communion Care	BJ Pratum
Communion Servers	Kirstin Doud Sidney Evans
Sound Livestream	Rachel Budelsky
Ushers	Hains Family
Prayer Partner	Cindy Klein
Children's Chapel	Veronica Hains Nicole Pridachuk
Childcare	Elena and Reece Ficklin

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

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Rick Lysen —360-592-5555

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Betsy Stuen-Walker—360-441-2313

Kids' Choir Director

Laura Loween—360-966-6277

Men's Choir Director

Del VandeKerk—360-319-1129

Health Minister

Claudia Ackerman—360-733-3688

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