Christ the Servant ~ Lakeview

LAKEVIEW LUTHERAN

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026



Aerial perspective of sunset. Photo copyright © Longhua Liao /Moment Collection/Getty Images Plus via Getty Images. Used by permission. License SAS003318

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CANDLE LIGHTING

The prophet Isaiah declares, “From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him” (Isaiah 64:4 NRSV). Today, we continue to wait and call out in hope for God’s restoration to meet us here, believing that God knows our struggles and works even now for the fulfillment of our salvation. **When God feels far away, and our lament feels too heavy to bear, we remember God’s steadfast love. May this love empower us to wait and watch in hope for the day when God’s kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.**
We light this candle of hope as a sign of God’s promises, that we might persevere in hope, a hope grounded not in wishes and whims but in the trustworthy and persistent love of God already at work among us to save and restore all creation.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who calls out to the weary,
whose word endures forever.
Amen.
A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Make straight the way of the Lord!”
We are called to confess our sin
and turn back toward God’s love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Comforting God,
we are your people,
but we have neglected to call on your name.
We are your people,
but we have not remembered your ways.
We are your people,
but we have forgotten your hold on us.
We are your people,
but now we fade like a leaf,
and our sins, like the wind, take us away.
Restore us as your people.

Cleanse us from our sin,
and clothe us in your righteousness.
Amen.
“Comfort, comfort my people!” says your God,
who has clothed you with the garments of salvation
and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness.
God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven:
Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN - GOODNESS OF GOD

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after
It’s running after me
Your goodness is running after
It’s running after me

With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God
All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God
I will sing of the goodness of God

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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep
and will sort them out. 12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when
they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I
will rescue them from all the places to which they have been
scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring
them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries
and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the
mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited
parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the
mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall
lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture

on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

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

PSALM 95:1-7A

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
2 **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.
3 For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are also yours.
5 The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
6 **Come, let us worship and bow down,**
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
7a For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

SECOND READING – EPHESIANS 1:15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive

what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

GOSPEL - MATTHEW 25: 31-46

The Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [31] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, [33] and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. [34] Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, [35] for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37] Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38] And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? [39] And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40] And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' [41] Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, [42] for I was hungry and you

gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,
43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you
did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit
me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in
prison and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer
them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least
of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into
eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

SERMON - Lori M.

HYMN OF THE DAY - O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL VS. 1-4 257

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

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

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.

O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

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

O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,

and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

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

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. Composite Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.
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APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - RESPONSE: Receive our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERING HYMN - AMAZING GRACE MY CHAINS ARE GONE

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
was blind but now I see

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved
How precious did that Grace appear
the hour I first believed

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains

Unending love, Amazing Grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, Amazing Grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine….

Chris Tomlin, John Newton, Louie Giglio. ©2006 Music, Vamos Publishing, worshiptogether.com.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy Creator,
we are the clay and you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

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 our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN - COME AS YOU ARE

Come out of sadness
From wherever you've been
Come broken hearted
Let rescue begin
Come find your mercy
Oh sinner come kneel

Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal

So lay down your burdens
Lay down your shame
All who are broken
Lift up your face
Oh wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt
Lay down your heart
Come as you are

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table
Come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
A rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't cure

So lay down your burdens
Lay down your shame
All who are broken, lift up your face
Oh wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt
Lay down your heart

Come as you are

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

There's joy for the morning
Oh sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow
That heaven can't heal

So lay down your burdens
Lay down your shame
All who are broken, lift up your face
Oh wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt
Lay down your heart

Come as you are
Come as you are
Come as you are

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Providing God,
you feed your flock like a shepherd
and gather your people in your arms.
We praise you for the care and sustenance
you give at this meal and always.
As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,
and send us with confidence in the way
of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN - LORD I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life

I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high (x2)

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Statistics
Attendance November 15 was 61.
Online: 24

November 15 offerings to General Fund: $8,896.00
Received online: $361.63

November 22 offerings to General Fund: $310.00
Online: 535.83

Upcoming Dates:

December 2	Tree Trimming & Pizza 5:00 PM
December 7	Book Club - 10:30 AM
December 9	Senior Hi-Lites - 11:30 AM
December 12	Women's Bible Study - 9:30 AM
December 13	Intentional Faith Mtg. - 11:00 AM
December 18	Piecemakers - 9:00 AM
December 19	Project Day - 9:00 AM
December 20	Care of Creation Team - 10:30 AM
December 23	Senior Hi-Lites - 11:30 AM
December 24	Christmas Eve Service - 4:00 PM & 9:00 PM
December 26	Women's Bible Study - 9:30 AM

Book Club
Monday, December 7 at 10:30 AM
Book: The Prayer Box by Lisa Wingate

Lions Club Toy & Food Drive
-Unopened/unwrapped toys and gifts for under age 13
-Non-perishable foods
-Monetary donations are also accepted
-Drop off starting November 17 until December 14

Save the Date!
Twins vs. NY Yankees!
June 23 | Evening Game

This Week at Christ the Servant

Today: Sunday, November 29 - First Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Worship
10:30 AM - Fellowship
Monday, November 30
9:00 AM - Package Bread and Delivery
12:00 PM - Piecemakers (FH)
Tuesday, December 1
7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (FH)
8:30 AM - Bread Distribution (FH)
6:30 PM - AA (FH)
Wednesday, December 2
10:00 AM - Bible Study (FH)
5:00 PM - Tree Trimming & Pizza
6:00 PM - Youth
7:00 PM - AA Meeting (Class A)
Thursday, December 3
3:45 PM - Chair Yoga
Friday, December 4

Saturday, December 5
12:00 PM - UCG Church (S/K/FH)
Sunday, December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Worship
10:30 AM - Fellowship

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!

Greeter: Katie Wright
Ushers: OPEN
Candle Lighting: Tony & Carol Lee
Reader: Mike W.
Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter, Kim, Tony
Communion Assistants: Deb G.
Musician: Jim, Wendy & Kate
Coffee Servers: OPEN
Cub Bread Pickup: Jan J.
Counters: Linda W. & Sue W.
Flowers: Kathy P. in memory of Jim

PRAYER REQUESTS…

We pray for those in need of healing and mercy: Keith, Jim, Kayla, (Tasha's friend), Norma, (Leila's Mother), Jennifer C. (best friend of Angie M), Brian I. (son of Pam I.), Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter S.), Patty W. (sister of Mike W.), Clarice, Jean A, Pat S., Katie W., Kathy P.

We pray for those who are grieving:
Family of Kathy P. - nephew passed

We pray for our service men and women:
Laiden S (deployed to Germany)

(Please call the church office with prayer concerns or updates.)

Thank you for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may give on our website: www.cslcvh.org/giving.

Scan the QR code below to make a secure online donation.

CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

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