 **COON VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**“We are a family of God, striving to enrich**

**the lives of all through the love of Christ.”**

**The First Sunday in Advent**

**29 November 2020**

**~ GATHERING ~**

**The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God**

**Bulletin is in memory of Lisa Thomas from Jason & Jamie Thomas Family**

PRELUDE My Lord, What a Morning Mary Schultz

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

*(silence is kept for reflection)*

Loving and forgiving God,

**we confess that we are held captive by sin.**

**In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray.**

**We have not welcomed the stranger;**

**we have not loved our neighbor;**

**we have not been Christ to one another.**

**Restore us, O God.**

**Wake us up and turn us from our sin.**

**Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news:

by God’s endless grace

your sins are forgiven and you are free-

free from all that holds you back

and free to live in the peaceable realm of God.

may you be strengthened in God’s love,

comforted by Christ’s peace,

and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT HOPE CANDLE Jamie, Kristina, and Karly Thomas

PIANO SOLO O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Mary Schultz

**~ WORD ~**

**God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song**

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-35

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

SERMON Pastor Julie Wollman

HYMN of the DAY Rejoice, Rejoice Believers Mary Schultz

**~ RESPONSE TO THE WORD ~**

**The Holy Spirit calls us as a community to say what we believe,**

**reach out to each other, and offer gifts and prayers for God’s purposes**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy…**Hear our prayer.**

THE 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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. **Amen.**

**~ SENDING ~**

**God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world**

BENEDICTION

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,

The long-expected Savior fill you with love,

The unexpected Spirit guide your journey, now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE Fughetta in A Mary Schultz

**We remember in prayer:**

**†** *Those hospitalized this past week*

**†** *Our members whose names we lift up in prayer today:* Beverly Bagstad, Eleanor Bagstad, Tip Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Inez Beck, Kay Bjornstad, Evelyn Dahlen, Judy Denison, Jeanne Ebli, Lucy Hardie, Kira Foster, Bonnie Holey, Becky Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Jim Knutson, Elizabeth Larson, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Sarah Leisso, Gerri Leum, Becky Lind, Cindy Manske, Dorothy Marshall, Aaron Marx, Frank Mathison, Skyler Midtlien, Romaine Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Tim Ofte, Sherman Olson, Eunice Quast, Jojo Satona, Aaron Stakston, Terri Stakston, LaVonne Stendahl, Susan Strangstalien, Nancy Stuempges, Joyce Temp, Maggie Traastad, Lanny Westphal, Ray Williamson.

**†** *Our members who are currently in health care facilities:* Rachel Berg, Erma Graupe, Sylvester King Jr., Irene Larson, Irene Nestingen, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Beatrice Olson (Leonard), Edie Peterson

**†** *Those who grieve:* Family and friends of Orville Stendahl, Mary Westphal and family in the death of her mother Mavis Youngs.

**†** *Our members who are currently home-bound*

**†** *All those in need of God’s healing and help*

**†** *Family and friends of our members*

**†** *All those affected by recent floods*

**†** *All those affected by the COVID-19 virus*

**FIRST READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**GOSPEL READING: MARK 13:24-35**

“But in those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn,

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