



Celebration Lutheran Church
December 10, 2017
8 am

During Advent, Isaiah begins with a lament: "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down!" We can relate to this lament today and can find ourselves wondering why God doesn't reset the world. Advent, a season that remembers The Coming and looks forward to The Return, calls us to lift our voices with Isaiah and look for the Coming One in our world today.

GATHERING

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

PRELUDE **Chorale Prelude on "Sleeper's Wake"** J. S. Bach

GATHERING SONG **Blessed Be the God of Israel** (ELW#250)

GREETING & WELCOME *We greet one another in the name of God.*

CANDELIGHTING

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We gather and center our hearts through prayer.*

THE WORD

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:1-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The Word processes into our midst to dwell among us. (p. 188)*

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:1-8
 The gospel according to... **Glory to you, O Lord.**
After the reading:
 The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

OUR RESPONSE

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD IN ACTION, PRAYER, AND PEACE.

WORD SONG **Comfort, Comfort Now My People** (ELW#256)

PRAYER UPDATES & PRAYERS *The prayer petitions conclude with "O that you would open the heavens and come down!", We respond with, "Hear Us, O God."*

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

You are invited to share a word and/or gesture of Christ's peace with your worshiping neighbor. "Peace be with you," "God's peace," and other words are appropriate. Hand shakes, hugs, and the kiss of peace is also appropriate.

As you share the peace, please circle around the altar. Bring your tithes, offerings and financial covenants forward.

THE MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *The Thanksgiving concludes with the Lord's Prayer.*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE *All who are seeking Jesus as their Savior and are in need of God's grace and forgiveness are welcome to the Table.*

DISTRIBUTION *We commune by intinction: receive the bread (or gluten free wafer) and when the cup comes to you, dip your bread into the cup.*

BLESSING *After all have communed, the pastor blesses and dismisses the assembly.*

PRAYER

SENDING

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Opportunities for deepening discipleship are shared.*

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** (ELW#254)

STOW *We "stow" the gospel in our heart for the week.*
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Isaiah 40:4

DISMISSAL Go in Peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE **Savior of the Heathen, Come`** J. S. Bach

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