



Celebration Lutheran Church
December 10, 2017
10:30 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.*

KYRIE P. 184

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 Isaiah 40:1-11
READING

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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

All is Ready Now, text and music: Jay Beech. Text and music copyright 1988 Jay Beech . Used by permission.

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.

OFFERING & CHOIR *We receive your tithes and offerings for the church's mission as a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all of God's gifts.*

OFFERTORY **All is Ready Now**

Musical score for the offertory "All is Ready Now". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is accompanied by guitar chords. The lyrics are: "I Qui - et - ly in - to the sta - ble where the Sav - ior sleep - ing lies, we can go, for all are wel - come: shep - herd, an - gel, poor, and wise. What we have we bring and of - fer, earth - ly gifts for Child di - vine, giv - ing that which we were giv - en, fruits of har - vest, bread and wine." The chords are: D, B⁹sus, Bm, Em, Asus, A⁷, G, D/F#, E⁹sus, E⁷, Asus, A⁷, D, D/F#, A/G, G, Bm, E, Em, D/F#, G⁶, A⁷sus, D.

OFFERTORY PRAYER *The Table is set with God's gifts of bread and wine and we give thanks for all that has been gathered.*

THE MEAL

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

GREAT THANKSGIVING (p. 190)
Holy, Holy
Eucharistic Prayer
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); proceed to the cup, dip your bread into the cup.*

COMMUNION SONGS **Lamb of God** (p. 191)
Wait for the Lord (ELW#262)

BLESSING *After all have communed, the congregation receives a blessing.*

PRAYER *We give thanks for God's presence and ask for God to send us as witnesses into the world.*

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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