



# First Sunday in Advent



November 28, 2021 | 11 am  
St. John's Lutheran Church | Salisbury, NC

# Welcome to St. John's

*We're so glad God has brought you here!*

Today is the 1st Sunday of Advent. As we begin this new week together, we'd like to bring a few announcements to your attention:

- A reminder that the 11:00 service returns to the sanctuary next Sunday, December 5. During the duration of the G2G project, our nursery will continue to be available during both services in the lower level of the Faith Center.
- **Christmas Traditions:** Join us TONIGHT from 5-7 pm at the Vista at Walnut Hill for our Christmas Traditions event. You'll enjoy wreath making, a hot chocolate bar, soup, chili, and more! 1090 Mountain Rd., Cleveland NC 27013.
- Our **Advent service project** kicks off today. "Shower The Dwelling with Love" by collecting shower supplies for the homeless community of Winston Salem. Find a full list of needed items and instructions at <https://stjohns-salisbury.org/shower/>.

## A St. John's Christmas Festival

*Next Sunday, December 5, at 4:00pm*

The Festival features our Men's Chorus, soloists Teresa Moore Mitchell and Ricky Howsare, cellists Kevin Agner and David Kim, pianists Janie Rollins and Josh Starnes of First Methodist, and our Luther Ringers. Join us!

- **GIFT Women's Christmas Party** is Dec.9 at 6 pm in Peeler Hall. All women are invited to join us for Christmas fellowship. Bring food to share, your own glass, and donations for the Dwelling Shower Ministry.
- **Christmas on Church Street** is slated for Friday, Dec. 17, 6-8 pm! Take a stroll through the Christmas story, beginning at Church and Bank streets.
- *Please be advised:* Today's worship service is being live-streamed for our online community.



Connect.



Give.



# Gathering

*The Holy Spirit gathers us as the people of God*

## Prelude

*Laudate Dominum* by W.A. Mozart (from Solemn Vespers)  
Alexandra McNeely, soloist

*English Translation: Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise Him, all people. For He has bestowed His mercy upon us, And the truth of the Lord endures forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever, Amen.*

## Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Wreath *(remain seated)*

*The Advent season begins in darkness as we await the coming of Christ. In the midst of darkness we are reminded that Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light no darkness can overcome (John 1:5).*

Solo Response: “All Earth is Hopeful,” *during which the first candle of our Advent wreath is lit.*

Blessed are you, O God, king of the universe. You call all people to walk in your light and to seek your way of justice and peace; for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Rouse us from sleep, bless us with light, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes. **Amen.**

*Please stand*

## Hymn 257

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
(See Page 6)

VENI, EMMANUEL

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.**

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



# Word

## Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

*In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The LORD is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.*

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Word of God. Word of Life! **Thanks be to God!**

## Solo Response

*Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* Setting by K. Lee Scott  
Alexandra McNeely, Soloist

## The Holy Gospel:

Reading of Zechariah’s story from Luke Chapter 1

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## Sermon

Rhodes Woolly

## Hymn 242

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*  
(See Page 7)

REJOICE, REJOICE

**Apostles’ Creed.** Gathered as God’s people across time and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession** *Each petition ends: 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.**



## **Sending**

*Forgiven and nourished, we are now sent into the world to share God's love.*

**Benediction**

**Sending Hymn 239**

*Hark, the Glad Sound!*  
(See Page 8)

CHESTERFIELD

**Dismissal** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude**

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## **Worship Participants**

**GUEST MUSICIAN:** Janie Rollins, Pianist

**READER:** Ann Hatchett

**SOLOIST:** Alexandra McNeely

**SOUND:** Mike Agee

**SONG LEADER:** Ricky Howsare

**VIDEO:** Taylor Hutchins

## **Join Us In Prayer For The Following:**

**CONDOLENCES** — Jill and Wayne Nelson, and family, on that passing of Jill's mother, Gloria Samuelson on Nov. 21.

Tzena (Charles) Wicker, Lisa (Ray) Pope, Sheila (Raymond) Stowers, Lorna (Barry) Medinger, and Sabrina Rufty (Mark Lawyer) and family, on the passing of Jean Rufty on Nov. 16.

**THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS** — Davey Rhodes, Gary Taylor, Gerald Jones, Barbara Hattaway, BJ Connor, Jane Britt, Rock Teague, Kerry Gardner, Rosemary Kinard, Jane Barrier

**ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS** — Gary Pinkston, Eleanor Andrews, Gene Myers, Lynn Fior, Rachel Safrit, Fran Lawson, Nancy Austin, David Wilson, Robin Cohen, John Myers

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

# Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

# Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
3 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.



Let's connect faith and life. *Together.*