

St. Luke Lutheran Church

"Energized by God's Love"

Dynamisé par l'amour de Dieu

1025 The Dalles Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (408) 736-9216
The Rev. Daniel Tisdel

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
2nd Sunday of Advent

Setting IV
December 8, 2024



Dear Members & Guests - Welcome to Worship!
God has greatly blessed us with your presence today.
Thank you for responding to his invitation.

If you have a prayer request, please send it by email or voicemail to Letty in the church office.

SERVING US THIS MORNING

Ministers: All of the Members of this Congregation!

Pastor: The Rev. Daniel Tisdel

Youth Director: Grant Hannon

Office Phone Line: 408-736-9216

Office Manager: Letty Lucero

Sunday School: Danae Moreno & Emily Bradshaw

Website: stlukechurch.org

Amazing Creations Preschool

Preschool Director: Julianna "Juli" Buccellato

Phone Line: 408-730-0365

Email: AmazingCreationsPreschool@yahoo.com

Website: www.AmazingCreationsPreschool.net

Assistant Minister: Wil Mandac

Lector(s): Danae Moreno (1st Reading & the Psalm) TBD (2nd Reading)

Children's Message: Pastor Dan Tisdel

Eucharist Assistant(s): Sue Hutchins & Denise Tsang

Altar Guild: Shirley Loo

Greeters: Doug & Doriann Shreve (Front Door), Don & Loretta Merry (Side Door)

Worship Team: Andy Wadsworth, Beth Stauter, Wil & Deb Mandac

Background Worship: Beth Stauter

Organist: Beth Stauter

Choir Director: Chris Frye

Bell Choir Director: Wil Mandac

Tech Team: Andy Wadsworth, Alan Martinez, Ethan ElAmir, Justine Skov, Madeleine Gan, Olivia Mitchell, Ryan Peters, Tim and Denise Tsang

Prayer Chain Coordinator: Marlene Custer

Hearing Assistance devices are available in the Library/AV Room.

ORDER OF *WORSHIP*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Margaret Steen

INTROIT

"O COME, O COME EMMANUEL"

Pastor Dan Tisdel
(acapella)

WELCOME

Pastor Dan Tisdel

INVOCATION

(music found on page 147)

[P] The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all

[C] *And also with you.*

ANNUNCIATION

Sung By Deb Mandac

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth
To a woman whose name was Mary.
The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored,
For God is with you. You shall bear a child,
And his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High."
And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

HYMN OF PRAISE: "MAGNIFICAT"

vs. 1:

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you.
You have looked with love on your servant here,
And blessed me all my life through.
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,
Strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one,
Humbling the proud of heart!

Vs. 2:

You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart.
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.
Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One,
strong is your justice, strong your love,
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.

Vs. 3:

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you.
You have looked with love on your servant here,
And blessed me all my life through.

Credit: Marty Haugen, from Holden Evening Prayer

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[A] Let us pray...

[C] **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE WITH PASTOR DAN TISDEL

GOD ENCOUNTERS HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

1st Reading – Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm: Luke 1:68-79

OT => Old Testament windows (right) side of sanctuary

NT => New Testament windows (left) side of sanctuary

[NT] *Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free.*

[OT] You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David.

[NT] *Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,*

[OT] to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.

[NT] *This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies,*

[OT] free to worship you without fear, holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.

[NT] *And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,*

[OT] to give God’s people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.

[NT] *In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,*

[C] to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

2nd Reading – Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(music found on page 151)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

[P] This is the Holy Gospel according to Luke ...

[C] Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

Gospel – Luke 3:1-6

Read by Pastor Dan Tisdell

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

“THE WAY TO MY HEART”

Pastor Dan Tisdell

HYMN OF THE DAY

“PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY”

ELW #264

GATHERING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Prayer requests collected in the offering plates will be brought forward for the Prayers of the People.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

[A] Let us pray...

[C] **Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God is real and present in all places and through all time. We share a vision of God: a God whose Spirit is love, accessible to all yet beyond our understanding. We search for the meaning of God and human experience revealed in the sacred stories which have been passed down to us. We tell our stories.

We believe in God the Creator, the Almighty, who made everything that is and saw that it was good.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth, who lived among us, healed, taught, suffered, and died. He forgave those who crucified him. In the mystery of the resurrection, he continues to live more profoundly through the ages as the Incarnation of Love, the Christ, who shows us the Way which leads to the reconciliation of the earth and all people.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Breath and Wind of God, the giver of life, the Holy Wisdom who inspires and moves the people of God to love God with our whole being; to love our neighbors as ourselves; to strive for justice and peace; to act in respect for every person and the whole of creation; to forgive as we have been forgiven; to love as we have been loved; to build communities of hope.

We believe that life overcomes death and nothing can separate us from God's love. Amen

(by Deacon Sarah Bjornebo)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[P & A] Lord, in your mercy.

[C] receive our prayer.

PEACE OF CHRIST

TRANSITIONAL PRAYER

[A] Let us pray...

[C] **Oh God, Each time I worship and take communion, I want to recommit my life, my heart, my thoughts, my everything to You. Fill me today with Your powerful Spirit and help me grow closer to you and to my neighbor. Amen.**

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving

[P] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Lift up your hearts.

[C] **We lift them to the Lord.**

[P] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[C] **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[P] It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . .

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND BLESSING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

[C] **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.**

"LAMB OF GOD"

(music found on page 154)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION - THE EUCHARIST (be seated)

Our Lord Jesus is the host of his table. He invites all to come to him. Everyone is welcome to commune with communion fellowship cups in the basket or bread and your

choice of wine or grape juice by intinction. If you are not communing, please receive a blessing of the day.

COMMUNION SONG

Margaret Steen

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

[P] Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

[C] **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

“HARK, THE GLAD SOUND”

ELW #239

BENEDICTION

[P] God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✝ bless and keep you now and forever.

[C] **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

[A] Our worship continues; our service is just begun. Go in peace to love and serve The Lord.

[C] **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

POSTLUDE

“TOCCATA ON ‘VENI EMMANUEL”

Beth Stauter

(Arr. By James Denton)