

BURR OAK – HESPER LUTHERAN PARISH

Pastor David Werges

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

8:30am Hesper / 10am Burr Oak

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GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another:
(Silence is kept for reflection)

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent candle

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.
You fasten righteousness around your waist

and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.
Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames,
and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.
We ask that peace abound,
until none hurt or destroy over all the earth.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

ELW 249

GREETING

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

KYRIE

ELW 203

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW 204

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LISTEN

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,

the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

1 Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
2 that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
3 that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
4 Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.
5 May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
6 Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.
7 In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
18 Blessed are you, Lord God, the God of Israel;

you alone do wondrous deeds!

19And blessed be your glorious name forever,

and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

4Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. 5May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, 6so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

7Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. 8For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, 9and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name”;

10and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;

11and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

12and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

13May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

L: The holy gospel according to **Matthew**, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,
²“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear

fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P: The Gospel of the Lord
C: **Praise to you, O Christ**

SERMON

RESPOND

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

ELW 272

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

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures. Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You embrace all who have died trusting in your promises, and we give thanks for their faithful witness. Sustain us in hope until we are united with them in the joy of your eternal presence. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

COMMUNION: Holy Communion will be served during worship this morning. All are welcome to the Lord's Table. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Page 152

Page 154

Communion Song
Post Communion Prayer

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW 638

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

ELW 270

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Offering: thank you for your gifts and prayers to support this ministry. Offering may be placed in the collection plates in the back of the sanctuary as you leave or mailed to the church office.

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BE JESUSY GRATITUDE PRACTICE FOR DECEMBER

Invite someone to join you at a Christmas Eve or Christmas Day worship service.

Take Home Verse

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:7

The 22nd Annual “Home for Christmas” Decorah Chorale concert will be held Saturday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. at Decorah Lutheran Church. The benefit concert supports the work of the Winneshiek County Habitat for Humanity through the concert free-will offering.

Area Council of Churches is collecting school supplies for Mabel-Canton students for the second semester. See the December newsletter for items needed. Purchased items may be placed in the receptacle (box) in the Narthex at each church. [School Supply List \(mabelcanton.k12.mn.us\)](http://mabelcanton.k12.mn.us)

The Hesper WELCA will have craft/baked goods set out for purchase in the Narthex at Hesper from November 20th through December 18th. Free will donation for baked goods and craft items will be marked. All proceeds to go to WELCA. If you’re interested in donating crafts/baked goods, please feel free to do so and if you have questions contact any WELCA member.

If you wish to have a holiday poinsettia on the altar in memory of a loved one this holiday season, please let Nan know at your earliest convenience. We will have a memorial insert in the Christmas bulletins. It will be up to the family(s) to get the poinsettia ordered and on the altar for the Christmas season. Any questions please feel free to ask Nan, thank you!

Please join us on Wednesday evening, December 14th for our annual children’s Christmas program. The teachers, students, and shepherds have been working hard again, this year to offer you a one-of-a-kind program for everyone of all ages to enjoy. The evening will start at 6pm in Burr Oak with a potluck meal and the Christmas program will begin at 7pm. The snow date for the Christmas program is on December 21st.

Thank you to Evergreen Hills (Tjossems) for donating the Christmas tree by the altar in Hesper! They have generously donated a tree for many years.

Please start prepping your end of the year letters and reports for the 2022 annual report books. Once you feel it is completed, please pass it on to Nan at your earliest convenience. Any questions please ask. Thank you!

Burr Oak Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud **Greeter(s):** Edith Dawley
Acolyte: Brody Darling **Scripture Reader:** Doris Patterson
Communion Assistance: Cindy Schnitzler
Ushers: Chad Wilson, Cory Wilson, Elmer Hansen, Steve Headington

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 6th: Church Council Meeting @ BO, 6:30 BO, 7:00 Joint, H to follow
Dawn Circle meeting 9:15 at Barb Barth's.
Wednesday, December 7th: Meal from 6-6:30, Wednesday School: 6:30-7:30, Confirmation 7-8 @ BO
Friday, December 9th: Bible Study at Highland Lutheran 9:30 am
Saturday, December 10th: Snell Family Baptism @ BO
Sunday, December 11th: 10am Worship

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to meet budget: \$ 1,630.00 Offering November 27th: \$1,959.00

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – December 11, 2022

Organist: Renae McIntosh **Greeter(s):** Neal and Clara Ann Lovstuen
Acolyte: Madelynn Dahl **Scripture Reader:** Clara Ann Lovstuen
Ushers: Marc & Kathy Rosendahl, Delbert & Kathy Smith, Frank Snell

Hesper Lutheran Church

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY

Organist: Kathy Tollefsrud **Greeter(s):** Todd & Rhonda Wyatt family
Scripture Reader: Todd & Rhonda Wyatt family **Acolyte:**
Communion Assistance: Todd & Rhonda Wyatt family
Ushers: Charlie Ardinger, Roger Goodno, Stanley Vongroven, Harold Stoen

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 6th: Church Council Meeting @ BO, 6:30 BO, 7:00 Joint, H to follow
Wednesday, December 7th: Meal from 6-6:30, Wednesday School: 6:30-7:30, Confirmation 7-8 @ BO
Friday, December 9th: Bible Study at Highland Lutheran 9:30 am
Sunday, December 11th: 8:30am Worship, Fellowship to follow

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Needed to Meet Budget: \$1,384.00 Offering November 27th:

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – December 11, 2022

Organist: Renae McIntosh **Greeter(s):** Janelle Halverson
Acolyte: **Scripture Reader:** Janelle Halverson
Ushers: Andy Darrington, Nick & Will Jore, Linda Folstad, Duane & Lynette Falck

Prayer Concerns



Jonathan Allen, Robin Foltz, Vi Hoffland, Ron Knutson, Paul Korsness, Landon Hageman, Stanley Vongroven, Ron Lippe, Stacy Nelson, Daisy Jones, Diane & Jason Daft, Marilyn Helland, Evelyn Schnitzler, Glenn Thunberg, Brenda Headington, Gary Stortz, Joyce Kallevang.

Please pray for military personnel currently deployed and those below serving stateside, elsewhere or in the reserves: Mason Falck, Al Jurek, Cameron Korsness, Jordan Grecko, Trevor Falck, Parker Whalen, Collin Tweten, Dan Bart, Brandon Nelson, Anthony Brown, Dylan Foltz & Wesley Smith. **Please also pray for all other soldiers, sailors, airmen, coasties and marines who work to defend us.**

Pr. Dave is available to bring communion, visit and offer spiritual care to those in need. Please contact Pr. Dave at 641-220-0205 or call the Parish Office at 563-735-5925 or email info@bohllutheran.org if you or someone you know would like a visit. Please call the Parish office if there is someone you would like included in Prayers or to update their status to help us maintain an accurate Prayer Concerns list.