

# How does a weary world rejoice?



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church is on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Welcome to Holy Spirit Lutheran Church! Our mission is to proclaim and embody the compassionate, challenging, and inclusive love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. Your age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, doubts and questions are all part of your story as a beloved child of God, and your whole self is welcome and affirmed here.

**If you are a first-time visitor, welcome!** We hope you will fill out a Welcome Card from your seat and drop it in the offering plate when it comes around - we'd love to get to know you! You are also welcome to communion today.

**Live streaming and recording** occur at our 9:30 am service. Those who worship online enjoy seeing people in the sanctuary, so if you are comfortable being on camera, please sit in the chairs to the right of the altar or close to the piano.

**The assisted listening system** in our sanctuary is compatible with personal hearing aids with the setting "T". Portable receivers and headsets are available from an usher.

**Children are always welcome in worship**. Activities for kids are located on the bookshelf located at the back of the sanctuary. Childcare is also available at the 9:30 am and 11:00 am services in our nursery. The nursery is designed for children ages 4 and younger – follow the overhead sign in the narthex that directs you to the hallway towards the nursery (on the right).

**Sunday School** for kids aged 3 through 6th grade occurs during our 9:30 am service, and all are welcome. As Sunday School takes place throughout the building, ask an usher or staff person where to find your child's class.

This worship bulletin is intended to be used at all three services today. Please leave it on your seat after the 8:00 and 9:30 worship. Large print bulletins are available from the ushers. Feel free to take home the announcement inserts for your personal use.

As we begin worship, we invite you to silence your cell phone.



We gather in the Advent season around a persistent question: how does a weary world rejoice? Advent gives us space to wonder together as we look for God's presence among us – anticipating not just the celebration of Jesus' birth long ago, but the continuing work of God's holy spirit in the world. Where do you see joy? What weariness do you carry? How can good news arrive even in the midst of sorrow and loss?

Throughout today's worship, you are invited to participate by joining in speaking the words in bold type.

**Prelude** Arief Abraham, piano

#### Welcome and Announcements

### **Call to Worship**

Please stand as you are able.

In God's house, we can be joyful.

We can be grateful. We can be hopeful.

In God's house, we can be weary.

We can be anxious. We can be grieving.

In God's house, we can be honest—

inspired or tired, delighted or doubtful, connected or curious, and everything in between.

This is God's house. You are welcome exactly as you are.

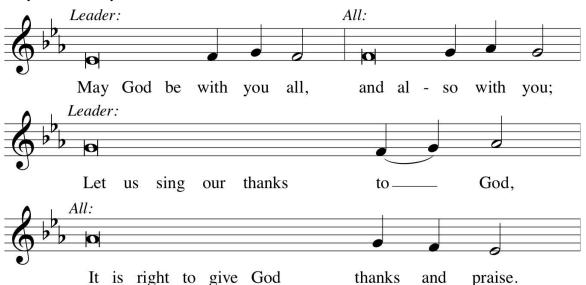
Let us worship our loving God.

# **Lighting of the Advent Candles**





## **Prayer of the Day**



Leader: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe–from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness

bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.



Let's all be seated.



First Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood

<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood

and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;

because you hid yourself we transgressed.

<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,

and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

<sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

<sup>2</sup>In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

<sup>3</sup>Restore us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>4</sup>O LORD God of hosts,

how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

<sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

<sup>6</sup>You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

<sup>17</sup>Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

<sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

<sup>19</sup>Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

11:00 Children's Message

# **Annunciation and Magnificat**

Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.

Leaders: 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." Then Mary said, "I am the servant of my God! I live to do your will."



Gospel Luke 1:1-23

<sup>1</sup>Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup>just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, <sup>3</sup>l too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup>so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.
<sup>5</sup>In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup>Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. <sup>7</sup>But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

<sup>8</sup>Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, <sup>9</sup>he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. <sup>10</sup>Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. 11Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. 12When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. <sup>13</sup>But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. <sup>14</sup>You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>16</sup>He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup>With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." 18Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." <sup>19</sup>The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup>But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

<sup>21</sup>Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. <sup>22</sup>When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. <sup>23</sup>When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

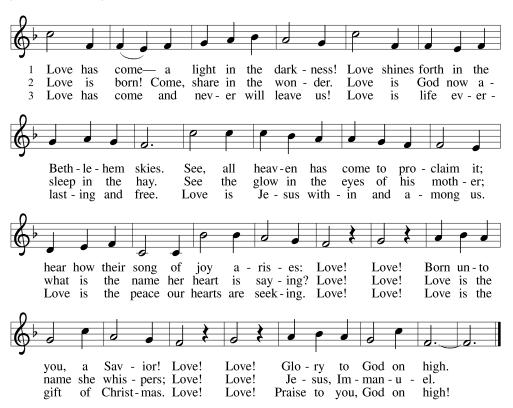
Thanks be to God.

Let's all be seated.

Sermon

**Pastor Katy McCallum Sachse** 

Hymn of the Day Love Has Come



#### Creed

Together, let's affirm our trust in God:

We believe in a God who hears our prayers, who knows the shape and form of our weariness.

We believe in a God who wants joy and delight for us, not just survival and existence.

We believe in a God who looks ahead,
who is not done dreaming for the world—
a God who sends hope in the form of people and change,
movements and Spirit.

And so we return to this space.

We bring our joy and our weariness
like two sides of the same coin,
and we trust that God is already at work.

Yes, we believe in a God who hears our prayers.

Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

#### **Prayers of the People**

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration, saying:

Hear us, O God, your mercy is great.

Our communal prayers begin with a short time of silence and then petitions for the world, the church, and people and places in particular need. You will also be invited to name, in speech or silence, the prayers you carry with you.



# **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of God be always with you.

And also with you.

Bearing in mind the personal comfort of those around you, please share a friendly sign of God's peace and reconciliation with others and then be seated.

# Offering

We invite you to contribute to our shared mission and ministry. Scan the following QR code to reach the Giving page on our website.



## Offertory

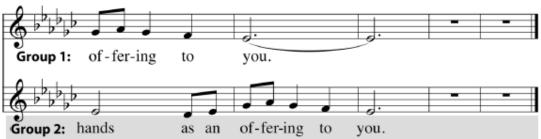






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## The Great Thanksgiving

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,

And let these gifts to us be blessed.

Blessed be God, who is our bread;

May all the world be clothed and fed.

This table does not belong to any denomination, church or community.
It belongs to Jesus.
It was at tables that he met people, heard their stories and shared his.
It was at tables that he deepened his friendship with those who were poor and oppressed, those who were rich and unsatisfied.
It was at tables that he shared who God is and what God wants.

And it was at a table, with bread and wine, that he began the meal we now celebrate.

So come to this table.
Leave behind any baggage of arrogance or unworthiness.
Do not think, 'This is not for me.'
Think rather of Jesus saying, 'I am for you,'
and how, long before this building came to be,
in open spaces and hard places,
people heard of how, on the night of his arrest,
Jesus sat at supper with his friends.

*(continued on next page)* 

During the meal, he took a piece of bread, Blessed and broke it, and said to his disciples, 'This is my body, given for you.' Later in the meal he took a cup of wine, saying, 'In this cup is a new relationship with God made possible because of my life and death. Drink it, all of you, and remember me.'

So we take this bread and wine, offering them to God for blessing, that through them the goodness of God may bless, enrich, and enlighten us.

And as Jesus taught his friends, so may we pray together, saying:

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.

Let's all be seated.

#### **Communion Distribution**

All are welcome to God's meal, where ordinary bread and wine become extraordinary, filled with Christ's presence. Ushers will direct you to one of the stations in front. Communion will be by intinction. You will receive a wafer, which you may dip into the chalice with wine, or with juice, then eat. Wafers in the small bowl on the side of the plate are gluten free. If you avoid gluten, please take one for yourself. If you would prefer not to receive communion, please feel free to remain seated or come forward for a blessing. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.





## **Prayer after Communion**

Please stand as you are able.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you strengthen our hearts at this table of life. In your mercy, give us courage to live in faith toward you and in fervent love toward all the world; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

### Amen.

## **Benediction**

People of God,

as you leave this place,

you go into a weary world—

so speak tenderly.

Do the good that is yours to do.

Choose connection.

Hold onto hope.

And remember that Christ took on flesh for you.

You are God's beloved.

So go rejoicing.

The world needs it.

#### Amen.

Sending Hymn People, Look East



#### Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the lowly.

Thanks be to God.

**Postlude** Arief Abraham, piano

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# Thank you to our worship assistants!

SERVING TODAY – November 26				
	8:00	9:30	11:00	
ACOLYTES	n/a	Micah Herman	Aiden Stewart	
ASSISTING MINISTER	Margaret Spatafore	Dave Papenhausen	Deirdre Staudt	
GREETERS	Mike Boyce	Nancy Swanson	Maryrose Henebry	
USHERS		Becky Fowler Bird Donna Morris	Phil Etheredge Ron Nitz	
A/V TECHNICIAN		Danielle Dadashi	Heath Stewart	
COMMUNION SET UP/ CLEAN UP	Carol Stolz	n/a	Polly Vann	

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – December 3				
	8:00	9:30	11:00	
ACOLYTES	n/a	Alex Doll		
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dennis Pierce	Carol Stolz	Phil Etheredge	
GREETERS	Sandra Deegan	Kurt and Julie Billett	Rosemary Dunkle	
USHERS	Rich Riggert	Judy Meyer Becky Fowler Bird	Maryrose Henebry Ron Nitz	
A/V TECHNICIAN	Becky Cole	Danielle Dadashi	Aiden Stewart	
COMMUNION SET UP/ CLEAN UP	Carol Stolz	n/a	Teresa Henrikson	