

LUTHERAN CHAPEL



EXODUS 32:1-20 and MARK 13:24-37

“THE GOLDEN CALF AND ON KEEPING WATCH”

*Jesus calls all who will listen to keep watch.
Reject the idols of this age. Let us keep watch for He is coming.*

**1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29, 2020**

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
NOVEMBER 29, 2020
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER**

BOLD indicates congregational responses.

GATHER

WELCOME

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

Matthew 11:28-30

P: We gather together in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

C: Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted up, O everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in.

P: Who is this King of glory?

C: The Lord of hosts is the King of glory! The Lord of hosts is the King of glory!

P: Who is this King of glory?

C: The Lord of hosts is the King of glory!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn” ELW #242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 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
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 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;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - 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 -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 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
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 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.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” (v. 1)
(Cantor sings v. 1, Congregation sings v. 1)



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

EXODUS 32:1-20

Aaron, the High Priest and brother to Moses, builds a golden calf for Israel to worship. What kind of god do we make to worship today? LORD, have mercy on us.

¹When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ²Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." ³So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. ⁴He took

the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD."⁶ They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely;⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'"⁹ The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are.¹⁰ Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'"¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

¹⁵Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back.¹⁶ The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets.¹⁷ When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."¹⁸ But he said, "It is not the sound made by victors, or the sound made by losers; it is the sound of revelers that I hear."

¹⁹As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.²⁰ He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Congregational refrain:

Lord, make us turn to You, show us Your face, and
we shall be saved.

1. Shepherd of Israel, hearken from Your throne and shine forth,
O rouse Your power, and come to save us.

Refrain:

2. We are Your chosen vine, only by Your care do we live,
Reach out Your hand, O Lord, unto Your people.

Refrain:

3. If You will dwell with us, we shall live anew in Your love,
O shine upon us great Lord of Life.

Refrain:

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SECOND LESSON

1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you

may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 1:1, Luke 24:32



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!



Our hearts burn with - in us while you o- pen to us the Scrip- tures.



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!



Word of life, Je- sus Christ, all praise to you!

GOSPEL

MARK 13:24-37

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.

²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE

“The Golden Calf and On Keeping Watch”

Recognizing Idols - the Story of the Golden Calf

Be Alert

***The Law** is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power:* I am asleep and think each day will be the same. Our world is asleep in vanity and foolishness and does not listen to the clear teachings of our Creator.

***The Gospel** is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power:* Jesus, Son of God and Son of man, calls us to be alert. We can trust that He will ultimately put all things right.

On Discipleship: Think through for yourself about issues from emergency preparedness kits to a record of all your stuff, from organ donation to use of medicines at the end of life, from having a will in order to talking with your loved ones about what you want to happen at the end of life, from trusting Christ each day and commending yourself into His hands night by night. What is your take away for your walk with Christ?

Memory Verse:

⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.

—Proverbs 3:5

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
 2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - - ground,
 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 1:13-14

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and

sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body

and the life + everlasting. Amen.

P: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith:

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *Jude 20*

P: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Jude 21*

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

2 Corinthians 5:17

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. *2 Corinthians 13:11*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

P: We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Prayers conclude:

P: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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

THE BLESSING

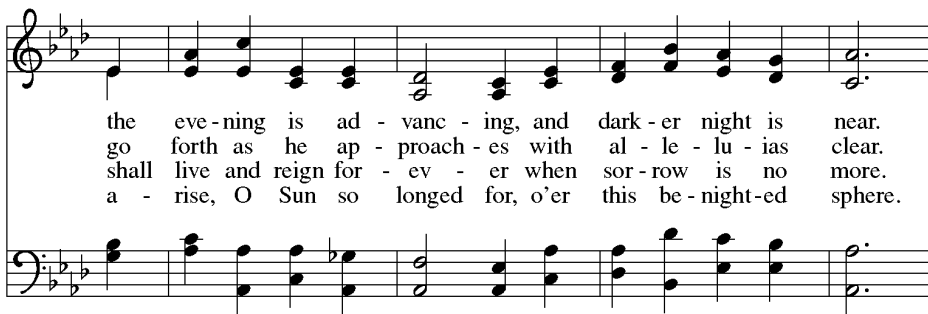
Numbers 6:24-26

P: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

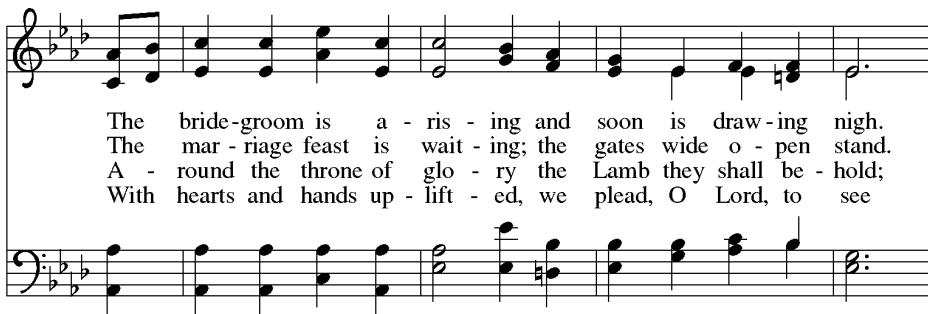
C: Amen.




1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

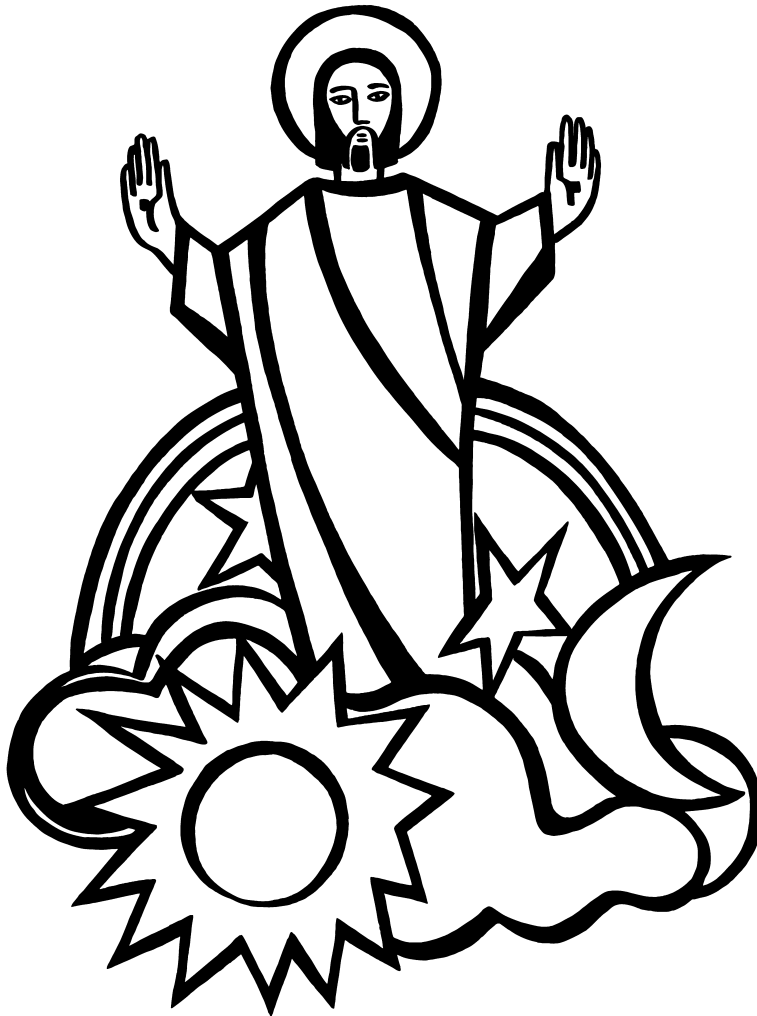
DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

+ + + + + + + +



PARISH NEWS

WEDNESDAY EVENING ADVENT SERVICES: Join us Wednesday evenings at 7:30 during Advent for Night Prayer. The services will be held in the Sanctuary both in-person and streamed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need a few good men AND women! With changes to our 10:30 worship service due to COVID-19 our weekly usher opportunities have also changed. We are currently in need of volunteers to serve as our single “inside sanctuary” usher to primarily meet, greet and seat, distribute masks, open/close doors during service and oversee dismissal. If you are interested in serving in this capacity please contact Steve Clark or Ervin Hoffman. Thank you!

SPECIAL LOVE OFFERING: During 2020 our Lutheran Chapel staff members have stepped up to provide as much normalcy as possible for our congregation to worship together, stay connected, give back and return to the church campus. With this in mind, the congregational council would like to provide a love offering to all of our staff as a thank you. If you would like to participate in this love offering, please mark “staff gift” on your contribution in the Sunday offering plate, via mail to 702 N. New Hope Rd., Gastonia, NC 28054 or church website (lutheranchapelchurch.org) Give option. Deadline to contribute is 12/13 as love offering will be distributed 12/20. Many thanks for your prayerful consideration in this love offering.

2021 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR: If you’d like to sign up for a special Sunday in 2021 to donate altar flowers, please contact Susan Lewis at 704-864-5242.

SPROUTS: We will continue with virtual meetings through December. Our next youth group meeting will be this **Wednesday, December 2**. We will also be meeting on **December 6 at 9:30** am for *Zoom Sunday School*. Amy will email the Zoom link during the week.

ROOTS SERVICE PROJECT: On Saturday, December 12th at 2 pm the Roots youth group will be helping the Outreach Committee stuff gift bags for our Angel Tree project. We will meet in the FLC. A Christmas treat will be provided.

WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB: The next novel in our women's book club will be *Mere Christianity*. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 21st at 6 pm**, location TBD. If you are interested in attending this book club session, please contact Amy at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org.

DAILY PRAYER

EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (Psalm 1:2) A prayer list, daily lessons to read the Bible together each year, and a song of praise are below. The “*Our Daily Bread*” devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit odb.org/subscribe. Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Braylon Beam, B.T. Bradley, Donna Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Hunter Clark, Tonya Dowdy, Lynda Ellington, Kathy Finch, Paulette Hale, Helen Hoffman, Henry Hoffman, Pr. Peter & Nancy Homovich, Dru Huffstickler, Robert Park, Betty Petty, Fran Rice, Barbara Robinson, Bill Robinson, and Karen Shambaugh.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Ruth Benoy, Vera Beutler, Eula Brazell, Lee Brinkley, Taylor Brinkley, Amelia Edwards, Jeannie Ehlers, Garry and Carole Farmer, Jamison Franklin, James Goudebeck, Harriet Grantham, Alice Hester, Sherry Hester, Travis Hogue, Mary Jackson, Paula Kadel, Dave and Crystal Lanning, Suzanne Ledford, Bill McCullen, Monica Morrissey, Frieda Moses, Lee Norris, Sam & Lara Rasanen, Craig Rooney, Martin Salois, Meredith Scruggs, Pastor Peter Setzer, Jimmie Sloop Jr., Charlene Sorenson, Dana Williams, and Lulu Zizak.

WEEK 49: NOVEMBER 29 to DECEMBER 6, 2020

11/29 Morning Reading: 2 Peter 1—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 35, 36

11/30 Morning Reading: 2 Peter 2—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 37, 38, 39

12/01 Morning Reading: 2 Peter 3—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 40, 41

12/02 Morning Reading: 1 John 1—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 42, 43, 44

12/03 Morning Reading: 1 John 2—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 45, 46

12/04 Morning Reading: 1 John 3—Evening Reading: Ezekiel 47, 48

12/05 Morning Reading: 1 John 4—Evening Reading: Daniel 1, 2

12/06 Morning Reading: 1 John 5—Evening Reading: Daniel 3, 4

Song Of Praise “Give Thanks” W&P #41

Next Sunday, DECEMBER 6, 2020 ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:30 Holy Communion: Joshua 6:1-21 and Mark 1:1-8

“*Preparing the Way and The Battle of Jericho*”

9:00 Zoom Sunday School: The King Who Had It All

10:30 Service of Lessons and Hymns

Note: *daily*Lectio.net provides the complete Revised Common Lectionary for both Sunday and daily lessons.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2020

Sun-29 8:30 am Early Service (Family Life Center)
 9:00 am Sunday School via Zoom
 10:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 6:00 pm Chancel Choir
 8:00 pm Faith Group (Prayer Hut)

Mon-30 8:30 am Preschool

Tues-01 8:30 am Preschool
 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday

Wed-02 8:30 am Preschool
 6:00 pm Sprouts via Zoom
 6:15 pm Handbells
 7:30 pm Advent Service

Thur-03 8:30 am Preschool

*We are so happy you joined us for worship this morning.
Please fill out the information below and leave this page in the pew
following the service. Thank you!*

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ Member _____ Visitor _____ Desire a call from the Pastor

Prayer Request: _____
