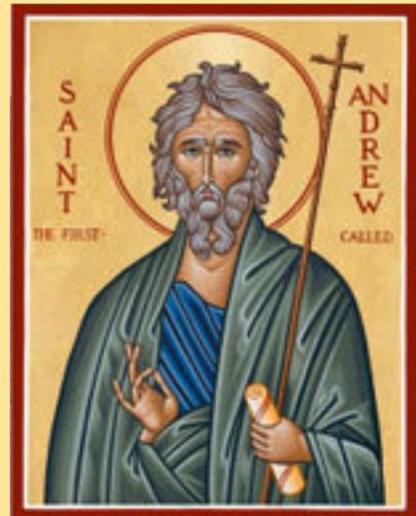


An Apostolic Advent

Midweek Worship Series



Andrew

Wednesday, November 30, 2016

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. for Advent and Sundays 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Communion: 1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday of the month

Becky Lanzito & Karen Leicht - Organists, Ann Souza - Music Director,
Mandi Stilson – Choir/New Music Accompanist

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We are pleased you chose to be with us in worship today, and pray the Lord blesses you as he has blessed us with your presence. Our goal is to help people find the right place for them to hear God's word and serve His mission. We'd love to support you in that spiritual journey. Please take a moment to complete an attendance card and place it in the Offering plate or give to an usher. This card will help us connect with you.

NURSERY

We have two rooms available for your use. When the service is in the sanctuary, the nursery is down the hall just past the restrooms. If the service is held in the gym, the nursery is in the youth room at the far end of the gym.

SERVING TODAY

Elder: **Bob Souza**
Disciple Care: **John Kozlik**
Acolyte: **Jay Souza**
Lay Readers: **Bill Oesterreich, Bill Schwartz**
Ushers: **Joe Souza, Cook Westendorf**
Greeters: **Rich & Karen Arnold, Jack Warneke**



POINSETTIA ORDERS ARE DUE THIS SUNDAY!

Place your order for red poinsettia plants to decorate our worship areas on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The cost for a plant is **\$11**, and orders are due in the church office by Sunday, **December 4**. Order forms are available on the Hub.

Remember a loved one by purchasing a plant:

In memory of... , In appreciation of... , or To the Glory of God.

ADVENT PROPHETS

This service draws from readings often used for the weeks of Advent, the Old Testament prophets who pointed to the first Advent of Jesus, His birth, and His Second Advent still to come.

Entrance Words and Invocation

based on Jeremiah 33:14-16

P: “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD.

C: When He will fulfill the promise He made to all of His people.

P: In those days and at that time

the LORD will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.

C: That Branch is a son of David. That Branch is Jesus, the Son of God.

P: The Branch shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**C: In those days the LORD’s people will be saved
and His Church will dwell securely.**

P: And this is the name by which the Church will be called:

C: The LORD is our righteousness.

P: What does that name mean?

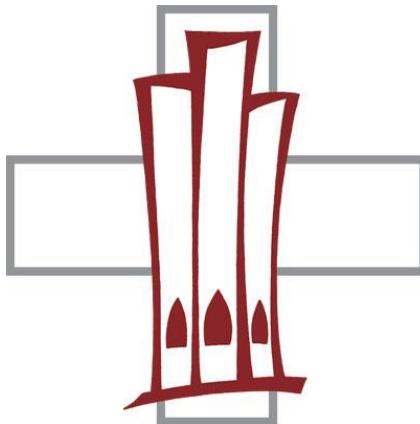
**C: We, His people, are righteous through His righteousness.
We are holy because He makes us holy through His Son.**

P: Let us remember our baptisms,

when the Lord became our righteousness...

in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!



Opening Hymn

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

LSB 334



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?
 2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;
 3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.
 4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!
 And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast
 My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new
 A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.
 And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.
 That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.
 In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
 Cannot His love erase;
 Your guilt the Lord will pardon
 And cover by His grace.
 He comes, for you procuring
 The peace of sin forgiv'n,
 His children thus securing
 Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
 A terror to His foes,
 A light of consolations
 And blessèd hope to those
 Who love the Lord's appearing.
 O glorious Sun, now come,
 Send forth Your beams so cheering,
 And guide us safely home.

Preparation for God's Word

based on Malachi 3:1-7b

P: "Behold, I send my messenger

and he will prepare the way before me," says the Lord.

C: This is John the Baptist who announced that the Messiah is Jesus.

P: Shall we rejoice that the LORD has sent His messenger,
that the Messiah Jesus has come into our midst?

C: Yes, we shall rejoice; but our sin causes us to fear His coming.

P: The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

**C: But who can endure the day of his coming,
and who can stand when he appears?**

For he is like a refiner's fire

burning away the worthless material in us.

**He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,
and he will purify us from all our sin.**

P: And the LORD declares to you today

that His mercies are new every morning. He says:

"I the LORD do not change;

therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

From the days of your fathers

you have turned aside from my statutes

and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you,"

says the LORD of hosts.

Your LORD has drawn you back to Himself

through His Son, Jesus.

You have returned to the LORD

through the work of the Holy Spirit.

You have returned and find forgiveness for all of your sins

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

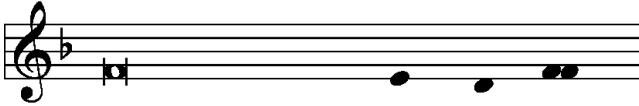
C: Amen.

P: And this is the name by which the Church will be called:

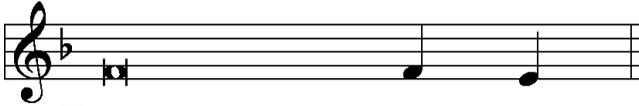
C: The LORD is our righteousness. Amen.

Versicles

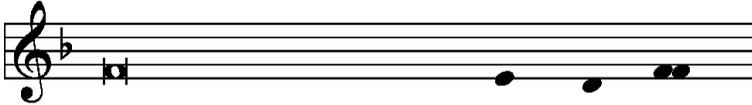
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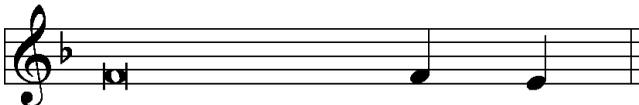
L The Spirit and the Church cry out:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.



L All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.



L The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your grace the apostle Andrew obeyed the call of Your Son to be a disciple. Grant us also to follow the same Lord Jesus Christ in heart and life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Psalm Reading

Psalm 139:1–12 (ESV)

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

²You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

³You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

⁵You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

⁷Where shall I go from your Spirit?

Or where shall I flee from your presence?

⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there!

If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

⁹If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.

¹¹If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light about me be night,”

¹²even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is bright as the day,
for darkness is as light with you.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

Romans 10:8b–18 (ESV)

⁸“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

¹⁸But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for
“Their voice has gone out to all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 1:35–42 (ESV)

³⁵The next day again John [the Baptist] was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “So you are Simon the son of John? You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Confession of Faith

Apostles’ Creed

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.

Hymn of the Day

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Sermon

“Andrew”

John 1:35-42

Offering

Offering Prayer

P: Heavenly Father, God of all grace, govern our hearts that we may never forget Your blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life. We give You thanks for this day, especially for the good we were permitted to give and to receive. The day is now past, and we commit it to You. We entrust to You the night and rest in Your peace, for You are our help, and You neither slumber nor sleep. Hear us for the sake of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Lord, we ask Your blessings on this congregation, that we may be drawn closer together around Your Word and Sacraments and closer to You as we celebrate the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Lord, we ask You to open our eyes to see all who do not yet have reason to celebrate this season of joy. Many do not know Your love in Christ. Enable us to see those in our midst who are hurting that we might be used by You to touch and change their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: When many will be experiencing great amount of stress, bring peace, O Lord, and unity and comfort that we may be prepared to celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in joy, not weariness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray, O Father, for the elderly in our midst, the homebound and hospitalized, that during this season we may be aware of their need for companionship and fellowship. Move us, O Lord, to make time for those who have been a blessing to us over the years. Use us, O Lord, to be a blessing to them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Lord, we entrust all for whom we pray to Your mercy, asking You to hear us for Jesus' sake.

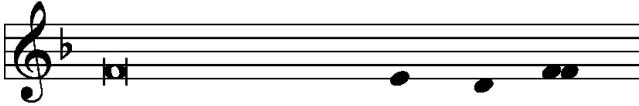
C: Amen.

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

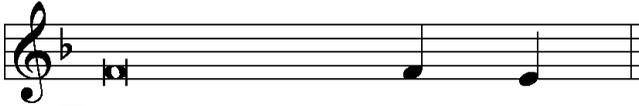
All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Versicles

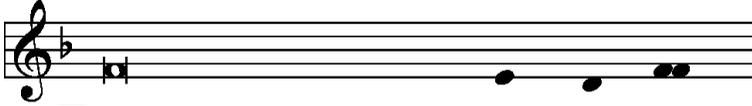
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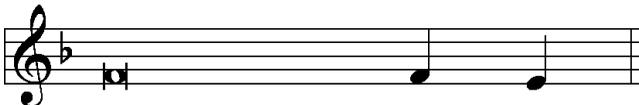
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C Come, Lord Je - sus.



L The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



C Come, Lord Je - sus.

Benediction

based on Micah 5:2-5a

P: Jesus shall stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And you, His flock, shall dwell secure,
for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth.
And He shall be your peace.
The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless you and always watch over you.

C: Amen.



1 Lift up your heads, you ev - er - last - ing doors,
 2 Who is this King of great and glo - rious fame?
 3 Who may as - cend Mount Zi - on's ho - ly hill
 4 "Wor - thy is Christ!" The Lamb who once was slain



And weep no more! O Zi - on's daugh - ter, sing,
 What is His name? Lord God of Sab - a - oth,
 To do God's will? The One whose un - stained hands
 Now lives to reign. He rules our earth - ly ways



To greet your com - ing King; Now wave the vic - tor's
 Of whom the proph - ets wrote, Whose cho - sen, hum - ble
 Can meet the Law's de - mands, Whose pu - ri - ty with -
 As Lord of An - cient Days— O join the end - less



palm And sing the an - cient psalm: "Lift up your
 steed De - clares Him king in - deed! Ho - san - na,
 in Re - veals One free from sin. Come, praise this
 song Sung by the ran - somed throng: "Wor - thy is



heads, you ev - er - last - ing gates!" Your King a - waits!
 Lord! Mes - si - ah, come and save From sin and grave.
 King who claims the cross as throne— Praise Him a - lone!
 Christ!" The Lamb be praised a - gain! A - men! A - men!

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