## VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



Second Sunday of Advent
Dec. 10, 2023
10:30 AM Worship

# Vashon Lutheran Church <br> Second Sunday of Advent 

Dec. 10, 2023
PRELUDE
Dinah Helgeson
John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!'" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

CANDLELIGHTING
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, LBW, \#34, V. 1, 2 \& Refrains

Frankie Ericksen, Acolyte
Roger Gebhard, Cantor

Cantor: Verse 1-O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

## Congregation: Refrain - Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, shall come to you, O Israel.

Cantor: Verse 2-Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height, in ancient times once gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. All sing Refrain

## ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING:

GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS
Congregation stands as able
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:
P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, $\ddagger$ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation. C: Amen. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Everlasting God,
C: you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and selfcenteredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

P: Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of $\ddagger$ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God’s covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all. C: Amen.

## Prepare the Royal Highway



Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship
Music: BEREDEN VÄG FOR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17 th cent.
Text 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
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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.


Song of Praise (next page):
ACS, $p .31$


## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## Congregation sits

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11
Dianne Kutzke, Lector (L)
Lector: A reading from Isaiah, Chapter 40.
L: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.
A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LoRD has spoken."A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.
Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"
See, the Lord GoD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.
Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.
PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
Roger Gebhard, Cantor


Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C $\odot 2006$ Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.
You have been gracious to your ${ }^{1}$ land, O LORD;*you have restored the good for- ${ }^{-}$tune of Jacob. You have forgiven the iniquity ${ }^{\mid}$of your people *and blotted out ${ }^{\mid}$all their sins.
I will listen to what the LORD ${ }^{\mid}$God is saying;
*for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their ${ }^{1}$ hearts to you.
Truly, your salvation is very near to ${ }^{\mid}$those who fear you,
*that your glory may dwell ${ }^{1}$ in our land.
Steadfast love and faithfulness have ${ }^{\prime}$ met together;
*righteousness and peace have ${ }^{l}$ kissed each other.
Faithfulness shall spring up ${ }^{\mid}$from the earth, *and righteousness shall look ${ }^{1}$ down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed ${ }^{\mid}$grant prosperity, * and our land will ${ }^{\prime}$ yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go be- ${ }^{\mid}$fore the Lord *and shall prepare for ${ }^{\mid}$God a pathway.
SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a
Dianne Kutzke, Lector
L: A reading from 2 Peter, Chapter 3.
L: Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.


GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8
Rev. John Michael Barich
P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 1. C: Glory to you, O Lord.
P: The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." P: The gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

## 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. Please sit

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Sindy Rice, Assisting Minister (A)
A: With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A: Send forth your faithful people with words of promise and forgiveness. Teach your church to be bold in revealing your good news in word and in deed. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Reveal your majesty in mountain peaks, flowing rivers, and blossoming wilderness roads. Heal the earth where it longs for renewal. Bring wholeness to the earth and all its creatures. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Turn the hearts of the nations toward righteousness and peace. Increase cooperation for justice between countries, commonwealths, political parties, and diplomatic leaders. In times of prosperity, direct leaders to be generous for the sake of all. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Comfort your people with tender words of love and healing. Surround all who are grieving, all who know depression or anxiety, or all who feel lonely or forgotten. Be a steadfast presence when all else feels uncertain. We lift up all those in need, either silently or aloud... Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Grant holy patience to all who are waiting this season. Give hope to those seeking employment. Bring reassurance to people awaiting new diagnoses or treatments. Protect expectant parents. Watch with those who keep bedside vigil. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: With you a thousand years is like a day. Bless the memory of the saints from ages past and the anticipation of saints yet to be born. Inspire us to live with faith as we await your new heaven and new earth. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

P: Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. C: Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. C: And also with you.
P : (At the end of passing of the peace) Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.

## Wait for the Lord



Text: Taizé Community
Music: WAIT FOR TIIE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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## OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

## Congregation stands as able

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.

## PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


## WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD'S PRAYER/COMMUNION:

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

P: Invitation to Communion: This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here.

Congregation Sits


Communion Hymn \#2:
ELW, \#242



P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. C: Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

P: Let us pray. Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. C: Amen.

## BLESSING:

P: The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit $\ddagger$ remain upon you now and forever. C: Amen

Sending Song:
ELW, \#249, v. 1, 2 \& 5

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



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

## DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Keep awake. C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Assistants Today:
Care Pastor - Rev. John Michael Barich
Assisting Minister - Sindy Rice
Lector - Dianne Kutzke
Communion Assistant - Janet Williams
Usher - Jim Dam
Musician - Dinah Helgeson
Cantor - Roger Gebhard
Communion Set Up - Gail Larson

Worship Assistants next week (12/17/23):
Care Pastor - Rev. John Michael Barich
Assistant Minister - Harriet Shull Nelson
Lector - Judy Carr
Communion Assistant - Janet Williams
Usher - Jim Dam
Musician - Marita Ericksen
Cantor - Nancy Lee Spears
Communion Set Up - TBA

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. John Michael Barich for your participation in worship today at VLC!
Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.
Poinsettia Contribution - Please pick up a form at the back of the sanctuary if you would like to contribute to the Poinsettia fund or sign up to bring one to the church for Advent/Christmas. Thank you!

VYFS Giving Tree - The Giving Tree was set up in the fellowship hall on Dec. 2. Please take a gift tag, buy the gift for the child on the tag, return the tag \& gift by Dec. 17 to put under the Giving Tree. Thank you!

Prayer \& Healing Service - Rev. Jeff Larson PhD is offering a prayer \& healing service on the first Weds. of the month at 6:30 PM, in the sanctuary. All are welcome!

Vashon Island Chorale's 66 singers, pianist Linda Lee \& director Dr. Gary D. Cannon present "A Pacific Northwest Christmas" at the Kay White Theater Sat., Dec. 9, 7:30pm \& Sun., Dec. 10, 3pm. The program is by Pacific Northwest composers with choral pieces about winter \& Christmas. McMurray Middle School choir will sing Remembering Decembers by Pinkzebra. There are sing-along opportunities for all!

IFCH Dinner Program: VLC provides hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Patte Wagner: pattewags@aol.com to help.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies - 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network - 206-473-8715. Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org

VCN FAMILY CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP - Vashon Care Network invites you to join other family caregivers in a safe, supportive space to share the experience of caregiving. Support circles are Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 PM at Vashon Lutheran. ?? Contact Kathy Shafel, kshafel@comcast.net, cell: 206.718-1458 or Tory Hayes, victoriansmith@comcast.net, 206.304-4544.

## OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY
$1^{\text {st }}$
10:30 AM
6:30-8:30 PM
Dec. 24, 10:30 AM \& 4:00 PM
Dec. 31, 10:00 AM
MONDAY
10:00 AM
$4^{\text {th }}, 6: 00-8: 00$ PM
TUESDAY
$2^{\text {nd }}, 9: 00$ AM - 1:00 PM
$3^{\text {rd }}, 10: 00 \mathrm{AM}$ - noon
WEDNESDAY

Food Bank Sunday
Worship
AA Group
Christmas Eve Worship Services at VLC
New Year's Eve Worship Service at COHS

Intercessory Prayer Group
VCN Board Meeting

Quilt Sewers Group
Vashon Quilting Group
$1^{\text {st }}$, 9:00 AM - noon
Dec. 6, 6:30 PM
Dec. 20, 7:00 PM
THURSDAY
6:30-7:30 PM
$4^{\text {th }}, 5: 00$ PM
FRIDAY
7:00-8:30 PM

Lutheran Quilters Group
Prayer \& Healing Service
VLC Council Meeting

VCN Family Caregivers Support Group at VLC IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

AA Group for Men


Vashon Lutheran Church

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## Hymns for Dec. 10, 2023

LBW, 34, v. 1 \& 2
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW, 264, v. 1, 3 \& 4 Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW, 631, v. 1, 3 \& 4 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW, 262 (3X)
Wait for the Lord

ACS, p. 40
Be Known to Us, Lord

ELW, 242
Awake! Awake, \& Greet the New Morn

ELW, 249, v. 1, 2 \& 5 On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

