



SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH
3419 Grand Avenue . San Marcos, CA 92078 . (760) 727-1509
www.sanmarcoslutheran.org

Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024

Welcome to worship!

Throughout the service, you will be invited to sit, stand, or kneel as you are able and as you feel comfortable.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, for it is Christ who does the inviting. An usher will let you know when it is your row's turn to come forward. Bread, gluten-free wafers, red wine, and white juice are all available. Please tell the pastor you need a gluten-free wafer when it is your turn.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE

'O Come, O Come Emmanuel', arranged by Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY TIME OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

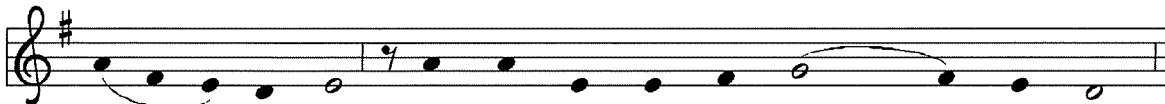
GATHERING SONG- *The congregation is invited to stand.*

Hymnal #257

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(Verses 1-2)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far - and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS- *The congregation is invited to stand, sit, or kneel, as able.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned.**
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.
We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SONG- VERSE 1

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



- 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!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

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WORD -The congregation may be seated.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of four systems of two staves each. The lyrics are: "To you, Lord, I lift my soul, To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to I lift, I lift my soul. you, I lift my soul." The word "Melody" is written above the second staff. The final two staves have a fermata over the final note and the instruction "(Last time)" written above them.

O Lord, Make me know your ways.

Teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me;

For you are the God of my salvation. I have hoped in you all day long.

Good and upright is the Lord;

He shows the way, he shows the way to sinners,

He guides the humble in right judgment; to the humble he teaches the way.

All the Lord's paths are mercy and faithfulness,

For those who keep his covenant and commands

The Lord's secret is for those who fear him; to those he reveals his covenant.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



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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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The assembly is invited into prayer:

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence. *(A brief silence)*

After each petition, "Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer."

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The congregation greets one another with the words "peace be with you" or "God's peace" and a sign of peace—a wave, a handshake, a peace sign, etc.

MEAL

SPECIAL MUSIC "Awake! Awake! Salvation Comes" by Antonio Caladra, Arr. by Hal Hopson Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us.

We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING- *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

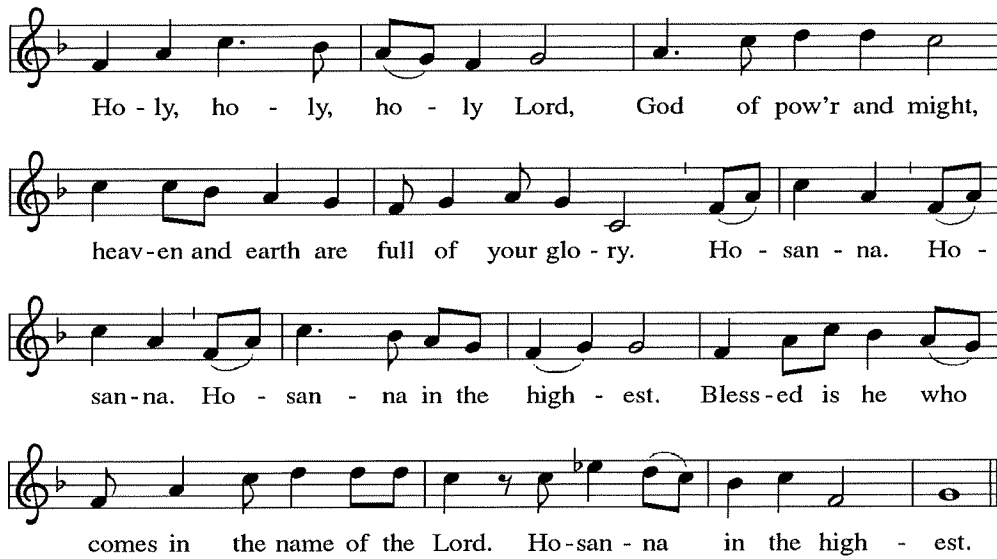
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

Mystery of winter skies, we thank you in the darkening hour for opening our eyes to see your starlit beauty; for parting the wide heavens to send your gentle light; for offering your Word to take on our mortal flesh. He was promised by those who shared your dream of peace; John the Baptist cleared his way with words of desert fire; Mary and Joseph accepted his coming with tenderness and faith; we know that he draws near again to show us who we really are with honesty and love.

Now we take up the song of hope, that we might awaken to his coming among us and the world be touched by the footfall of his glory:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon these gifts,
 that these fragile, earthly things
 may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ;
 who, on the night that he was betrayed,
 gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.
 Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:

“This is my body, which is given for you.
 Do this to remember me.”

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste
 beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, in our eating and drinking
 we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ;
 we proclaim him as creation’s host,
 transforming poverty into plenty
 in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope
 that one day death and greed will be no more
 and people without number
 will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal.
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 by whom and with whom and in whom
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit
 all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Church Publishing (New York, NY: 2009).

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

Hymnal #254

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Wait for the Lord



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey,

✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

Amen.

Comfort, Comfort Now My People



1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

Thanks be to God.

We invite you to remain seated quietly for the postlude. If you exit during the postlude, please refrain from conversation until you are outside of the sanctuary. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Luther Hall immediately following the service.

POSTLUDE

'Watchet Auf, Ruft uns die Stimme' by J.S. Bach, arranged by Leonard Borwick

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Koln, 1710; tr. Composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2,6,7 @1997 Augsburg Fortress
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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher/Presider: Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Musicians: Justin Hershey, Beth Sullivan and Max Chodos

Lector: Karin Kupka

Ushers: Hector Gonzalez and Sharon Scott-Gonzalez

All are welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)

Are you new to San Marcos Lutheran Church? Pastor Casey would love the opportunity to get to know you, and has put together a short, confidential, online form. Your smartphone's QR reader can take you to it using this code.

If technology isn't your cup of tea (or if it just isn't working for you today) there are cream-colored cards in the pew in front of you, which you can fill out and put in the silver offering plates, hand to an usher, or hand to Pastor Casey after the service. We're glad you're here!

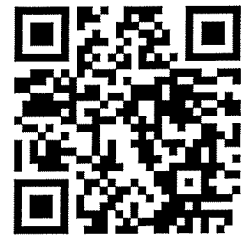


Let Us Keep These People in Our Prayers: Don Arney, Dawn, Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check, Bill Hanson, Jolene Hanson, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Susan Kent, Gary Kloehn, Laura, Deborah McGregor, Leanne Pohrman, Alvar Roy, Vern Soderstrom, Marilyn Smith, Dawn Steele, Louise Testerman, Elijah Toler, Nick Torres, Kelly Van Jen. Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church! **Your generosity enables us to do God's work in our community.** Your contributions to our general fund support our budgeted expenses—we cannot do it without your support!

You can contribute in any of the following ways:

- Place a check or cash in the silver offering plates at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays;
- Mail a check to the church office (3419 Grand Ave. San Marcos, CA 92078);
- Set up a recurring donation through your bank;
- Make a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card or bank account through Tithe.ly, our online giving portal. Visit sanmarcoslutheran.org/give to get started.



Your smartphone's QR reader can take you there by scanning this code. *San Marcos Lutheran Church is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift may be tax-deductible.*

Audio & Visual Volunteers Needed

Help enhance our Sunday Worship experience! Our Communications Coordinator, Adriana Alfaro, is seeking volunteers to assist with Audio and Visual equipment. No experience necessary - training provided! Contact us to learn more and sign up! email: comms@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Commitment Sunday is Today!

As our stewardship season begins, please prayerfully review the time and talents inventory and commitment cards as you prepare for 2025. We ask that you return one inventory per person and one commitment card per household. During worship today, we will bless these gifts and pray for our budget committee members as they begin their service. If you would like these documents mailed or emailed to you, please contact Aimee 760-727-1509 or office@sanmarcoslutheran.org to make that request. Thank you for your generosity!

Community Time Today

Intergenerational Advent Adventure with Karin Kupka- Join in on the fun including singing Christmas carols while ringing hand chimes as well as craft activities to prepare for the season of Advent. The fun is geared for all ages and multiple generations. No need to RSVP. Please bring a favorite Christmas treat to share. Questions? Contact Karin Kupka

Christmas Concert: This afternoon at 3pm!

The Music Men Chorus with Special guests the Pacific Belles will bless us with a special holiday concert on Sunday, Dec 1st at 3pm. A \$10 donation is suggested.

Saturdays of Sisterhood

For Women. By Women. About Women. Bible study, self reflection, and finding community amongst the women of the Bible and those of SMLC! Please join Karin Kupka on Saturday, Dec 7th from 10-11:30 AM In Luther Hall. Coffee and tea will be served. No need to RSVP. Questions? Email Karin @karinkupka533@hotmail.com or call 760-415-2525.

SMLC Women's Christmas Luncheon: Salad Potluck, Saturday, Dec 14th at 12pm

Saturday, December 14th at 12pm. Please join us for a Women's Christmas Luncheon held in Luther Hall. Bread and dessert will be provided. Come and enjoy good food, a guest speaker and singing Christmas Carols. Feel free to bring a friend. Questions contact Donna Huber 760-521-1917