

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH 2021



*Lord of the Mountains Lutheran Church is an open,  
welcoming and affirming community, fulfilling God's vision of a world  
where peace, love, and justice become a reality for all.*

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Lord of the Mountains Lutheran Church  
[lordofthemountains.org](http://lordofthemountains.org)

Dillon, Colorado  
(970) 468-6809

## GATHERING

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Pastor Frances McWilliams**

**Moment of Silent Centering**

**Opening Hymn (#723 vs. 1,2,4) *see insert***

***Canticle of the Turning***

Pastor : The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**All : And also with you.**

Pastor : Gracious and holy God,

**All : Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Lighting the Advent Wreath**

**Ron Gebhardtsbauer & Greg Wright**

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on the wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**All : Amen.**

## WORD

**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."

## **A Modern Day Psalm : The Gift of Wonder**

*by Liliana Stahlberg*

I choose to enjoy the glory of the everlasting, ever present One,  
To sit and listen to what delights God's heart...

The story from prophets of old telling humans what they don't want to hear,

**and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares  
and their spears into pruning-hooks  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation  
neither shall they learn war any more.**

I choose to breathe the wonder of that Eternal Love  
coming to us every year  
as an innocent and vulnerable child  
not in palaces of power and wealth  
but in the manger where all creation feeds  
from the very essence of Life.

**I choose to absorb the Beauty  
of the Divine presence,  
to delight in the One through whom all things were made,  
who comes to us again and again  
as Light, Peace, Hope, and Joy  
making a home inside of us,  
Emmanuel, God with us.**

**Gospel Acclamation (#253 v. 1)** *see insert*

***He Came Down***

**Gospel Reading**

**Luke 21:25-36**

Pastor : The holy gospel according to Luke, chapter 21.

**All : Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "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."

*continued*

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.”

Pastor : This is the Gospel, the greatest story ever told.

**All : Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Frances McWilliams**

**Anthem**

***Light An Advent Candle***

***by Becky Slagle Mayo***

Advent is a time for hope for waiting for the light to lead us to the promised One to break the dark of night. Light a Candle our Messiah will come, light a candle for the promised One.

**Welcome of Visitors & Announcements**

**Prayers of the People**

Pastor : Keeping awake as we watch for Christ’s arrival let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. ***Brief silence***

*(...at the end of each petition)*

Pastor : Lord, in your compassion,

**All : Prepare our hearts for you.**

Pastor (at conclusion of petitions) : We commend to you, O Lord, all of our spoken and unspoken concerns always trusting your grace and mercy to sustain, strengthen and uphold us.

**All : Amen.**

## **Sharing of Peace**

Pastor : The peace of Christ be with you!

**All : And also with you!**

Pastor : Let us share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.

## **Offering**

*At this time we are inviting people to share generously from the blessings God gave us all. Those attending church can drop a check or cash in the basket by the exit doors of the sanctuary. Others can donate online, following instructions on LOTM's website - or mail a check to the church office. Thank you!*

## **Offertory Prayer**

### **MEAL**

## **Great Thanksgiving and Eucharistic Prayer**

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 good to give thanks and praise.**

## **Communion Prayer**

Pastor : It is indeed our honor, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful Creator, through our Lord 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 join our hearts as one as we praise your name.

**All : Amen.**

## **Words of Institution**

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Pastor : We gather now at the banquet of lavish love and astounding grace. All are welcome, no exceptions!

**Communion Hymns (#461) *see insert***  
**(#490) *see insert***

***All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly  
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence***

## Blessing After Communion

Pastor : Let us pray together.

**All : God of abundance, we give you thanks that in the holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the celebration of the birth of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## SENDING

### Benediction

Pastor : The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, now and forever.

**All : Amen.**

**Sending Hymn (#251) *see insert***

***My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness***

### Dismissal

Pastor : Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

**All : Thanks be to God. We will!**

### Postlude

# PEACE BE WITH YOU

## *In Service*

### **THIS WEEK**

*Greeter*—Kris Eickhoff

*Guest Pastor*—Frances McWilliams

*Reader*—Kris Eickhoff

*Usher*—TBD

*Altar Guild*—Ferol Menzel

### **NEXT WEEK**

*Greeter*—Kris Eickhoff

*Pastor*—Lydia Ziauddin

*Reader*—Julie Wright

*Usher*—Norm Wright

*Altar Guild*—Kris Eickhoff

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR : THIS IS IMPORTANT!**

After service on **Sunday, December 5th**, a congregational meeting will be held. Compensation for our new pastor will be the business at hand, and a 15% quorum must be in attendance to qualify our vote.

*Please make this event a priority, in support of and appreciation for all our Pastoral Search Committee and Council have done to get us this far in this very exciting process!*

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## **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED : MEET + GREET with OUR PASTORAL PROSPECT**

In keeping with our COVID precautions, and in order for meetings to be as personal as possible, we've designed a variety of opportunities :

**Thursday, December 2nd**—Immediately following Holden Prayers.

**Friday, December 3rd**—Groups of 6pp every half hour, starting at 9:30A, ending with the 11:30A group. 10A has been designated a Zoom only opportunity, for those unable to attend in person. Link will be provided after reservations are complete.

Larger group opportunity @ 2P.

*Masks are required for all meet + greets, and you can register for a time by calling the church office : (970) 468-6809 - or using the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.*

## **Welcome to Lord of the Mountains**

We rejoice that diversity in God's creation enriches, nurtures and challenges our life and ministry as followers of Jesus and as servants in the world.

Because we believe with Jesus that God's grace is truly amazing, we are committed to welcoming all people to this place... no matter where you come from, no matter what age, race, socio-economic or family status, no matter what gender identity or sexual orientation, no matter what your faith tradition or theological beliefs.

Grace is for everyone or it isn't grace.  
It's that simple.  
It's that amazing.

*We really do welcome all!*

In the spirit of the Reformation, Lord of the Mountains Lutheran Church continually seeks meaningful ways of expressing our commitment to the life and teachings of Jesus.

We do this by...

- welcoming all people to full participation in our community of faith.
- recognizing there are many ways to God.
- striving to be compassionate toward all of creation.
- aspiring to live what we believe.
- respecting diversity of thought and opinion.
- working for peace and justice for all people and all creation.
- committing ourselves to serving others.

*adopted January 2018*