



3rd Sunday of Advent

December 12th, 2021
9:00 am

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church
Center City, MN
ELCA

WELCOME TO CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

If you are a first-time visitor, welcome! We are glad you are here. At Chisago Lake Lutheran Church, we are "Grounded in the Gospel, Guided by the Spirit." We are a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and strive to be God's hands active in the world. While we are a church with a rich history, we are also a church for today.

There are devices to assist those of us who are hearing impaired at the front entrance when you enter. Please see Julie Riemer for guidance use if needed.

CALL TO WORSHIP

But now, O Jacob, listen to the LORD who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine." - Isaiah 43:1

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Chad & Alyssa Hollister & Family

Reader One: On the third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Joy.

Reader Two: When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him.

Reader One: Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. (Matthew 2:10-11)

HYMN

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

#240 Vv. 1-3

READING

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and

thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

RESPONSE:

The Gospel of our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S WORD

Stacy Johnson

SERMON

Pastor Brad Barr

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Now the Heavens Start to Whisper”

See Insert

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

SPECIAL MUSIC DURING OFFERING *“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”* Rod Strenke

OFFERING – Meditation & Generosity

You are invited to give to Chisago Lake Lutheran online at:

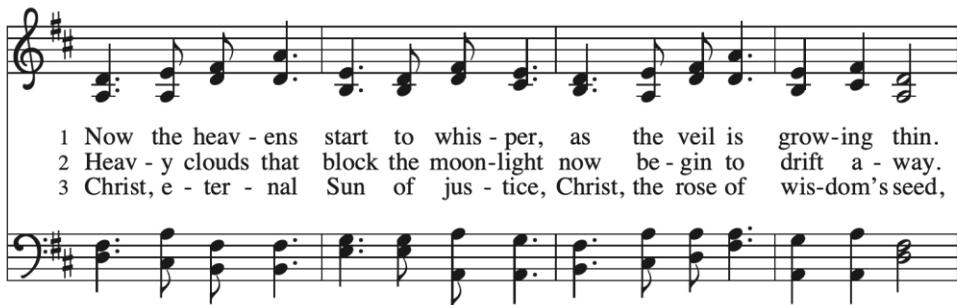
<https://www.chisagolakelutheran.org/online-giving.html>

You can also send your offering to the church:

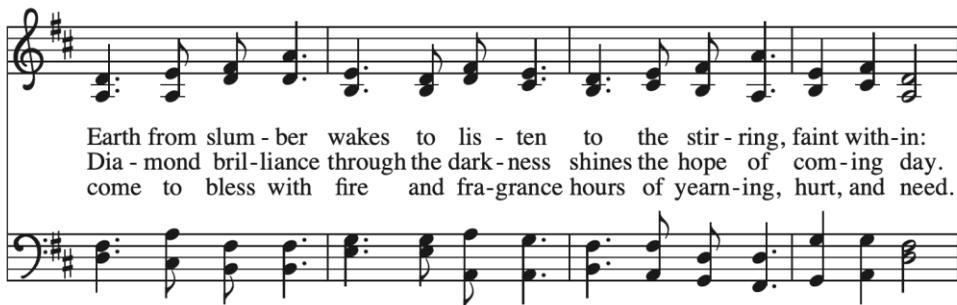
1 Summit Ave, PO Box 175

Center City, MN 55012

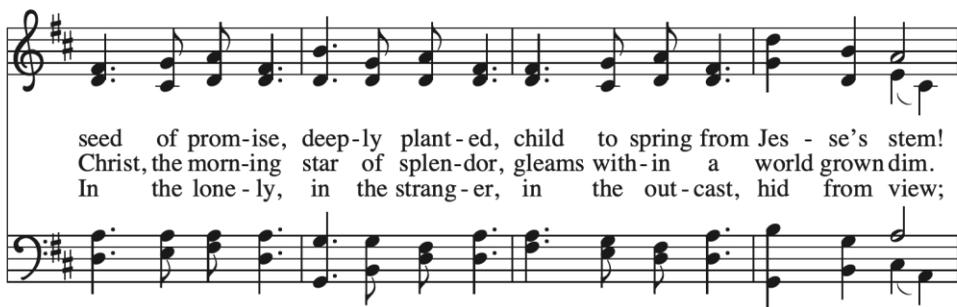
Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



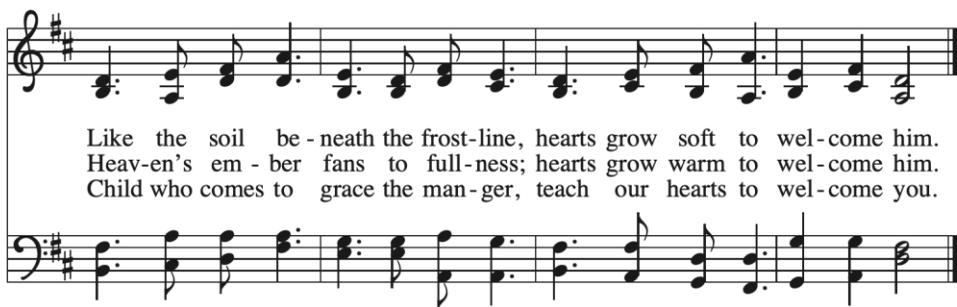
1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

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OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 God thanks and praise.

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.**

Distribution

You are invited to share the bread and the wine using the individually wrapped wafers and grape juice. Please discard the cups as you leave the sanctuary.

SPECIAL MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

"The Advent Hymn"

Barbara Yotter

COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

#547 Vv. 1-2

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Get a 2nd dose of this service by watching local Channel 10 (CLTV) on Sundays. At 10 am you’ll see last week’s service and at 6 pm, you’ll see this week’s service.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Coffee Server: Marlee Eret

Greeter: Jamie Carlson

Online Video Operator: Brayden Bresnahan

Pianist/Organist: Julie Riemer

Reader: Marc Brottem

Soloists: Rod Strenke & Barbara Yotter

Usher: Mike Carlson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 20th Annual Bazaar held Dec. 4th was a great success! THANK YOU to the Planning Committee, the many, many volunteers who donated baked goods, donated items to sell, sold raffle tickets, helped with advertising, and donated their time to make it happen! Also, thank you to all those who purchased raffle tickets, had a crafter space, and attended the Bazaar. If you would like to be on the Planning Committee for next year, please contact the church office.

This Year's Raffle Ticket Winners Are: Sarah Amundson (MN Wild Tickets), Linda Lindgren (Kwik Trip Gift Card & Framed CLLC Print), Georgia Anderson (Mystery Box), Stephanie Wendel (County Market Gift Card), Holly Damm (Dick's Market Gift Card), Julie Lauritzen (BP Gas Gift Card) and Cherie Peterson (Brink's Market Gift Card). Congratulations to all our winners! Please contact the church office if you have not claimed your prize.

Thank you from Dr. Ashley Karlsson: Dear Gladys L. Johnson Scholarship Trust, In the spirit of gratitude, I wanted to reach out and thank you for your generosity and offer a brief update. Fifteen years ago, I wasn't sure how I would be able to afford a college education. I received a scholarship from the Gladys L. Johnson Trust, and that scholarship, along with others, allowed me to pursue my dream of becoming a teacher. I have since gone on to teach in five countries, earn a Master's in Education and a PhD in Education Policy and Leadership. I now work as an Education Systems Specialist providing school improvement support to dozens of schools across the State of Minnesota. I am profoundly grateful for your gift many years ago and I wanted to let you know the difference you made in my life and the lives of so many others. Thank you! Dr. Ashley Karlsson, Ogilvie High School Class of 2006

Volunteers Needed We could use some volunteers to take donations collected at CLLC to Family Pathways throughout the year. Please contact the church office at 651-257-6300 or email office@chisagolakelutheran.org if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!

The CLLC Book Club will meet Monday, January 10, 2022 at 7 PM on Zoom. We will discuss parts 3 and 4 from the book "*Braiding Sweetgrass*." Please contact Bonnie Anderson at brinkanderson@gmail.com for the Zoom link or with any questions.

Gather Bible Study will not meet in December. Women of the ELCA publishes *Gather* Magazine. Each issue contains Bible study or devotional lessons which correspond with the scriptural readings that are used during our Sunday worship services. There are also several articles relating to the theme of each month. For more information contact Barbara Wikelius at bjwikelius@gmail.com or visit the website: <https://www.gathermagazine.org>.

Christmas Needs? If there is a family you know who may be struggling this year for Christmas gifts or food needs, please contact Pastor Steve.

Joyful Sounds Deux, the 2nd Annual Christmas CD is available in the church office for a donation (suggested \$10). Proceeds will go to The Refuge Network-Family Pathways. Please contact Julie Riemer or the church office to purchase your copy today.

Voice Lessons Offered for Adults Meet on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM in the Sanctuary with Barbara Yotter instructing. Great opportunity to enhance your vocal talent. Email Julie Riemer at music@chisagolakelutheran.org for info.

Middle School Christmas Party for 6th-8th Grades is on Wednesday, Dec. 15th from 3 to 4:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall – Stacy will pick up kids after school that day. There will be no Confirmation on this date. Email Stacy at youth.family@chisagolakelutheran.org with any questions.

The CLLC Tree of Life Children's' Choir Meets on Wednesdays! All children are welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings from 5 to 5:45 PM in the Sanctuary. Barbara Yotter will be the Children's Choir Director. Email Julie Riemer at music@chisagolakelutheran.org for info.

Littlest Angel Shoppe is back this year! Donations are needed! The Littlest Angel Shoppe is a store set up here at church filled with donated gift items to assist the Sunday school children with their holiday shopping. All items cost 25 cents each-no matter what the item is. **Donations from the congregation of new or gently used gift items would be greatly appreciated! Any type of gift for infants through adults are needed. Please drop off your items in the church office by December 15th.** The children will be able to shop on Saturday, December 18th at 10:30 AM in the large Sunday School room following the Christmas Program practice that morning. For questions, call Stacy at 651-257-6300 or email her at youth.family@chisagolakelutheran.org.

Anonymous Santa – Please consider picking up an extra gift or two for those less fortunate this Christmas. The Anonymous Santa Program helps families who cannot afford to purchase gifts for their children. New, non-violent toys and gifts are distributed along with mittens and hats, Christian books & videos, board games, sports balls, and stocking stuffers. Children from ages newborn to 18 are eligible. **The last day to drop off gifts is Monday, December 13th in the Narthex.**

“Daily December Prayers” are available on our Website and Facebook

Our hope is these simple prayers strengthen and encourage your faith in the month where we celebrate God's greatest gift, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Veterans Coffee Talks – *Zion Lutheran Church, Chisago City* – **2nd Tuesday of every month from 9-10 AM** or *North Branch American Legion Post 85, 6439 Elm St, North Branch, MN* – **3rd Tuesday of every Month 9-10 AM**. Meet other veterans, build friendships, listen to their experiences. Everyone is welcome.

You can reach staff via phone (651-257-6300) or email to:

Pastor Steve – pastor@chisagolakelutheran.org

Bridget/Louise – office@chisagolakelutheran.org

Stacy – youth.family@chisagolakelutheran.org

Stephanie – finance@chisagolakelutheran.org

Julie – music@chisagolakelutheran.org

Bev or Bob – call the church office if you need to reach either of them

Current Ways to Give

Thank you for sharing your generosity with Chisago Lake Lutheran! You have continued to share what God's entrusted to you and we are grateful.

There are various ways you can continue to give to CLLC:

1. Mail your envelope/check to the church office at 1 Summit Ave, PO Box 175, Center City, MN 55012
2. Or sign up for regular online giving through our partner company Vanco on the church website. It's secure, convenient, and assures your ability to give consistently to God's mission. www.chisagolakelutheran.org

PRAYER CONCERNS (please contact the church office with any concerns/updates.)

- Deepest sympathy and prayers for the family of longtime member Owen Johnson who passed away Dec. 4th. His funeral service will be held here on Thursday, Dec. 16th with Visitation at 10 AM and Service at 11 AM. May God hold Owen's family and friends in His care as they mourn their loss. Wishing them God's peace and comfort.
- Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of longtime member Roger Lenz who passed away on Nov. 29th. May the Lord comfort them in their grief and loss, and cover them with peace as only He can do. Roger's service was Thursday, Dec. 2nd at Grandstrand Funeral Home. May he rest in eternal peace.
- Thank you for the prayers for Joyce Nelson (sister-in-law of Midge Nelson) who passed away Nov. 30th. Prayers for comfort and peace as the family moves forward in their grieving and continued prayers are asked for Darryl Nelson (brother-in-law of Midge) who fell while hunting and is experiencing pain.

- Delores Allen, prayers for healing and recovery for an arm fracture after a fall.
- Pat Williams, prayers for restored health and recovery from pneumonia.
- Harriet Ryberg, prayers for healing and comfort after her recent surgery.
- Gretchen Hanson, prayers for healing and comfort following a recent surgery.
- Tim Hawkinson, son of Ellen Hawkinson, prayers for stroke recovery/speech therapy.
- Sally Barott, cancer treatments.
- Jodi Medin, daughter-in-law of Delores Medin, peace and comfort through her ongoing melanoma treatments.
- Shirley Gustafson, prayers for healing and recovery from recent surgeries.

THIS WEEK AT CLLC:

- **Sunday, Dec. 12th** Sunday School today for 3 yrs to 5th grade at 10 AM
- **Sunday, Dec. 12th** Narcotics Anonymous at 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall
- **Tuesday, Dec. 14th** Property Committee at 6 PM
- **Tuesday, Dec. 14th** 3M Committee Meeting at 6:30 PM
- **Tuesday, Dec. 14th** Finance Committee Meeting at 7:30 PM
- **Wednesday, Dec. 15th** 6th-8th Graders Middle School Christmas Party at 3 PM
- **Wednesday, Dec. 15th** Tree of Life Children's Choir at 5 PM in the Sanctuary
- **Wednesday, Dec. 15th** Adult Vocal Lessons at 5:45 PM in the Sanctuary
- **Thursday, Dec. 16th** Men's Fellowship Group meets at 8 AM at Phil's Grill
- **Thursday, Dec. 16th** Visitation & Service for Owen Johnson beginning at 10 AM
- **Thursday, Dec. 16th** Church Council Meeting at 7 PM
- **Saturday, Dec. 18th** Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal at 9:30 AM
- **Saturday, Dec. 18th** Littlest Angel Shoppe in largest Sunday School Room following Christmas Program Rehearsal