

HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

an ELCA Congregation



Sunday, December 11th, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

"The Little Church with a Big Heart"

Presiding Minister: Pastor David Raben

Keyboard: Peggy Odegaard Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

3944 County Trunk "M" Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 920-743-9806

web: www.hainesvillelc.com Office e-mail: officehlc12@gmail.com

 Find us on
Facebook

In case of a pastoral emergency contact Council President Joanne Adlon
on her cell phone at (847)226-7337

WELCOME TO WORSHIP at HAINESVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH. We're glad you're here. If you are visiting with us, please sign a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. We thank you for joining us in worship and pray that our time together is a blessing to you. And.... please join us for our weekly fellowship brunch after worship. There's always plenty and you are always invited. If you are looking for a faith community, we would be pleased to have you call HVLC your "church home".

PRELUDE AND RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

FAMILY ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING *Ben Dixner Young and Family*

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" **ELW 257, verse 1**

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

R At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming.
O Emmanuel,

C **Open us up to your coming.**

R We gather together to allow our deeply held hopes to be reshaped
by God's promises. O Emmanuel,

C **Open us up to your coming.**

R We wait for the day when God will make for us a future that is no longer
predicated on our fear. O Emmanuel,

C **Open us up to your coming.**

R We find a new receptivity within us that desires God's will over our own will
and relies on God's justice and mercy to accomplish it. O Emmanuel,

C **Open us up to your coming.**

R Jesus, we welcome your presence now with the lighting of these candles,
whose flames bring warmth to winter and fill this place with the glow of hope.

C **Amen.**

Light three candles.

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" **ELW 257, verse 4**

**O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

CHILDREN'S CHAT AND NOISY OFFERING FOR WORLD HUNGER

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please remain seated)*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free.

C Amen.

P Let us come before the living God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

C **we open our hearts to you, O God. Search us and know us. Reveal all that we keep inside. To you, O God, we confess our sins, known and unknown. For give us, renew us, and lead us in your ways of justice and peace. Make us reflections of the radiant love of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen**

P Beloved children of the Most High, you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all. Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism, where sin is washed away in the river of life. Dwell peacefully in the loving arms of the one who nurtures all creation. Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven in the name of the one who is coming and is already here, † Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

GREETING *(please stand as you are able)*

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.

KYRIE

HYMN #157

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through-out the world, for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have
Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.
mer - cy. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God,
C and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(you may be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.
³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

R The Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God**

PSALM: Psalm 146:5-10 *(read responsively)*

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

R Word of God, Word of Life C Thanks be to God

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11 (*please stand as you are able*)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P The Gospel of the Lord C Praise to you O Christ.

GOD’S WORD FOR TODAY

Pastor David Raben

SPECIAL MUSIC “Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”

Family Choir

(please stand)

APOSTLES CREED

P Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was

buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you. *(please share Christ’s peace with one another)*

(you may be seated)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *(please stand as you are able)* “Create in Me”

HYMN #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me. Cast

me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

P Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

RESPONSE TO PRAYER P *God, in your mercy* C **Hear our prayer**
Hannah (Albert), Rusty (Allen), Lindsay (A), Tom (Angermeier), Devin (Bartos), Karen & Del (Brewer), Sharon (Burr), Eugene (Clark), Danielle (Davis), Carol (Dennis), Emery (Freiberg), Ruth (Grainger), Ellen (Groenwoldt), Mathilde & Richard (Hannemann), Shari (Krueger), Ellie (Krull), Don (Lauscher), Linda (M), Larry (Mallien), Joe (May), Francine (Meyer), Ken (Overland), Jodi (P), Matthew (Rocque), Alice (Rocque-Angermeier), Hans (Sawitzki), Eric (Thorson), Kari (Uetz), Jim (Vogel), Nick (Vogel), Jeanine, Joe, and the family of Troy Schiesser.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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**

SENDING HYMN

"People, Look East"

HYMN #248

THE BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

P May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice. May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom. May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in pathways of equity and abundance. The blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

C **Amen.**

P Go in peace. Prepare your hearts for the coming of the Christ.

C **THANKS BE TO GOD.... AND WE WILL!**

POSTLUDE

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Stewardship Opportunities

Dec 11th—Dec 18th

Today the fellowship meal is being provided by the folks whose last name begins with L-Z. Next Sunday the folks whose last names begin with A-K will provide the meal. *Visitors and members alike are welcome to share in our fellowship meals. Come on down.... And get to know your neighbors and friends.*

Week at a Glance Dec 11th—Dec 18th

Tuesday Noon

WELCA Christmas Luncheon Celebration

Wednesday 8 AM

Men's breakfast and Bible Study

Attendance last week: 50

Birthdays for December

Dec 1st Hans Sawitzki

Dec 4th Kimberly Heindl

Serving in worship today (Dec 11th Advent 3)

Presiding minister: Pastor David Raben

Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

Reader: Bonnie Kohn

Ushers: Bonnie Kohn & Roy Jilburg

Advent Candle Lighter: Ben Dixner Young

Keyboard: Janet Anderson

Readings for December 18th

Isaiah 7:10-16 *The sign of Immanuel*

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (*Ps. 80:7*)

Romans 1:1-7 *Paul's greeting to the church at Rome*

Matthew 1:18-25 *A God near at hand*

Dec 6th	Sandy Swagel
Dec 7th	Daylia Sund
Dec 11th	Jeff Gutschow
Dec 12th	Emily Hanson
	David Grunwald
Dec 13th	Bill Nusbaum
Dec 15th	Jeff Espe
Dec 16th	Lyle Berndt
	Becca Larson
Dec 18th	Bob Larson
Dec 20th	Colleen Melland
Dec 21st	Dave Freier
Dec 22nd	Bill Albert
Dec 27th	Rick Hannemann
Dec 31st	William Markham

Anniversaries for December

Dec 3rd MarJean & Jerry Gutschow

Serving in worship next week(Dec 18th Advent 4)

Presiding minister: Pastor Mary Lou Plummer

Liturgist: Jim Hanstad

Reader: Kirsten Dixner Young

Ushers: Kirsten & Matt Dixner Young

Advent Candle Lighter: Daylia Sund

Keyboard: Peggy Odegaard

Communion Assist: George Sincock

WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

December 13	Women of ELCA Christmas Luncheon All are welcome. \$10.00 gift exchange Food sign-up in basement
December 18	Sunday worship w/Communion
December 18	Bake sale after worship
December 24 4:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 25	Lessons and Carols worship

NOTE: Cookie drop off for the bake sale on December 18th will be from 9:00 to 11:00 on **DECEMBER 17th.**

There are many opportunities for celebrating the Christmas Season in our community. A great way to support our youth is to attend their concerts. Check with them and see when they are performing. It will show you care.

Please turn in your annual reports. If you do not have something that is dependent on the end of the year please do them now so that work can begin on this project.

Please get your orders in for your poinsettias by Dec. 18. They are coming from a nursery in Green Bay.

Please consider being a substitute for our streaming ministry. You will have an excellent teacher and do not have to do it every week. See Jane or Lana if you are interested.