

***Second Sunday of Advent***  
**December 4, 2022    10:30 a.m.**



***The River Jordan***

**Come to Chapel or  
watch our service on Channel 105**

# Order of Worship

## Gathering

*Prelude*

Randvig N.

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

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.

ELW 257

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.

### Advent Blessing

Praise to you, O God, who gives us courage to start again.  
You fasten righteousness around your waist  
and baptize with the Holy Spirit's fire.  
Bless us as we mirror your mighty fire in these simple flames,  
and teach us to mirror your justice in the paths we prepare.  
We ask that peace abound,  
until none hurt or destroy over all the earth. **Amen.**

## Welcome and Announcements



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

ELW 249

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without your grace we waste away  
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

**(Turn page)**

### 3

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
And make us rise to fall no more;  
Oh, let your face upon us shine  
And fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,  
Whose advent has our freedom won,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Spirit, evermore.

**Text:** Charles Coffin; tr. composite; **Music:** European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Response: *And also with you.***

### **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Word

### First Reading – Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Response: *Thanks be to God!***

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**Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19**

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

**May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

## Second Reading – Romans 15:4-12

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Response: *Thanks be to God!***

**Gospel Acclamation**

ELW, page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

**Gospel – Matthew 3:1-12**

**Response: *Glory to You, O Lord.***

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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. Even 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. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more

powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Response: *Praise to you, O Christ.***

**Sermon**

*Tree and Root*

Pastor Mandsager

***Prepare the Royal Highway***

ELW 264

Prepare the royal highway;  
The King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley,  
A level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory,  
Foretold in sacred story:  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
For he fulfills God's Word!

God's people, see him coming:  
Your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you!  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
For he fulfills God's Word!

**(Turn page)**

## 9

Then fling the gates wide open  
To greet your promised king!  
Your King, yet ev'ry nation  
Its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him;  
Their voices join your singing:  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
For he fulfills God's Word!

His is no earthly kingdom;  
It comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
And justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
For kindness so abounding:  
Hosanna to the Lord,  
For he fulfills God's Word!

**Text:** Frans Mikael Franzén, tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*; **Music:** Swedish folk tune. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## Prayers of the Church

Christiana Adams

### Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**Response: And also with you.**

## Offertory

Randvig N.

## Meal



### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**Response: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**Response: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Response: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Invitation**

**Words of Institution**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray.

**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.**

**Communion Distribution**

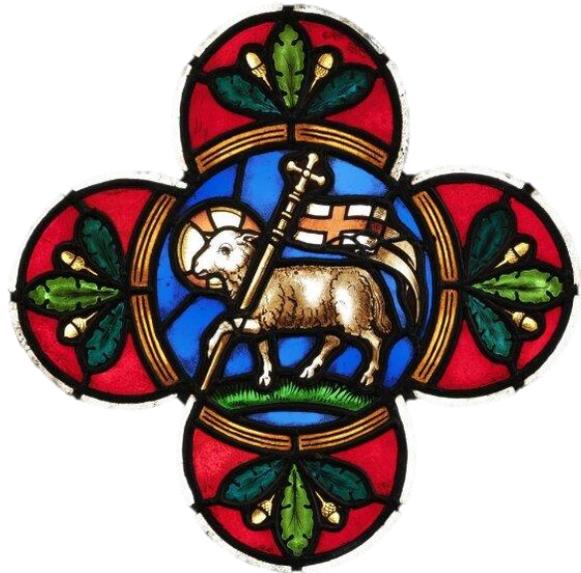
**Communion Song***Lamb of God*

ELW, page 154

Lamb of God, you take  
away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take  
away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take  
away the sin of the world;  
Grant us peace, grant us  
peace.

**Communion Music****Prayer**

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## Sending

### Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### *All Earth Is Hopeful*

ELW 266

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!  
 Furrows lie open for God's creative task:  
 This, the labor of people who struggle to see  
 How God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:  
 "A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";  
 She conceived him, "God with us," our brother, whose birth  
 Restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;  
 New highways opened, new protocols declared.  
 Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!  
 All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.  
 This same Lord Jesus today has come to live  
 In our world; he is present, in neighbors we see  
 Our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

***Response: Thanks be to God.***

## Postlude

Randvig N.



**Advent Worship Calendar**  
**10:30 AM**  
**NRC Chapel and Channel 105**

Advent III                      December 11

Advent IV                      December 18

**Christmas Worship Calendar**  
**NRC Chapel and Channel 105**

Christmas Eve Service  
**Saturday, December 24**    3:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Service  
**Sunday, December 25**    10:30 a.m.

# **A Nativity Diptych for NRC**

**by Northfield artist  
Mark Daehlin**

**Spend as much time as you like  
in the Chapel  
(or tune in to Channel 105)  
to watch Mark's creative process  
every Tuesday and Thursday  
from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
during Advent:**

**December 6, December 8,  
December 13, December 15,  
December 20, and December 22.**



**Northfield  
Retirement Community**  
*Innovation. Choice. Tradition.*

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