

10:45 a.m. – Service of the Word and Sacrament

Order of Service
Saint Michael Lutheran Church
3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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1st Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2023

Welcome, Announcements & Greetings

Opening Hymn

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

see insert

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 33:20-22

Pastor: Our soul waits for the Lord;

People: He is our help and our shield

Pastor: For our heart is glad in Him

People: Because we trust in His holy name.

Pastor: Let Your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us

People: Even as we hope in You.

Pastor: Confident in His steadfast love, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we do and by what we fail to do. Instead of waiting on You and clinging to Your promises, we impatiently go our own way. Instead of loving our neighbors as ourselves, we put our wants first and serve our interests instead of Yours, O God. For the sake of Lord Jesus, our Savior and King, have mercy on us. Forgive us and restore us. Guide us and renew us. Help us to walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

(Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.)

Pastor: "You are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:7-8). Our faithful God hears our prayers and answers them, taking away our guilt and giving us His righteousness. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, our Savior and King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9 (NIV)

¹ Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! ² As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! ³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. ⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you,

who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. ⁵You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? ⁶All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. ⁷No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins. ⁸Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD; do not remember our sins forever. Oh, look on us, we pray, for we are all your people.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NIV)

³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— ⁶God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anthem

"In Silence We Wait"

*arr. by Lloyd Larson
offered by the Sanctuary Choir*

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Holy Gospel

Mark 11:1-10 (NIV)

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ²saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'" ⁴They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" ¹⁰"Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Children's Message

Song of the Day

"In the Fullness of Time"

see insert



Sermon

"We Are Waiting for His Arrival"

Pastor Dave Bass

To watch and listen to last week's sermon online at www.smlcs.org, scroll down to the bottom and click on "Watch the Live Stream."

Sermon Outline:

Sermon Thought #1: The Palm Sunday crowds waited for a _____ and received a _____.

Sermon Thought #2: While the world has mostly written off Jesus as merely a _____ who suffered, believers are waiting for the arrival of _____.

Apostles' Creed

inside back cover of hymnal

Offering

A special stewardship note to our guests: the ministries and work of Saint Michael Lutheran Church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends as they steward God's gifts. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled or pressured to make a contribution.

Online contributions and donations can be made by clicking this link: tinyurl.com/SMLGiving. You may also mail your offerings to the church office: 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, FL 33901.

Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Holy Communion

Distribution Songs

"Grace of God with Us"

see insert

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

arr. by James Story

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Refrain

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

Refrain

Refrain

Blessing

Closing Song

"Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)"

see insert

