

MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 5, 2021



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Advent 2

December 5, 2021

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## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Timothy Albrecht

### Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

#246 ELW



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

## 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.**

# KYRIE

#152 ELW

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

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; 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

*Ostinato (repeated continuously)*

Veni Sancte Spiritus (*Holy Spirit, Come to Us*)

#406 ELW

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

# WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

## FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Holy Words. Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Holy Words. Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL: Luke 1:5-25

*Before the reading: Glory to you, O Lord!*

<sup>5</sup> In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. <sup>6</sup> Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. <sup>7</sup> But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

<sup>8</sup> Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, <sup>9</sup> he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. <sup>10</sup> Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. <sup>11</sup> Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. <sup>14</sup> You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>16</sup> He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup> With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." <sup>18</sup> Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." <sup>19</sup> The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. <sup>20</sup> But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

<sup>21</sup> Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. <sup>22</sup> When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. <sup>23</sup> When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

<sup>24</sup> After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, <sup>25</sup> "This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

*After the reading: Praise to you, O Christ.*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### SERMON

## HYMN

Now The Heavens Start to Whisper

#901 ACS



- 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.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFERING

The offering plate will be passed today to collect for Lutheran Community Services and the ALS Association. They usually benefit from the Swedish Pancake Breakfast which won't happen this year, however, we'd still like to provide them with our financial support. Please continue to place your general offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary as usual.

# CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**  
...on the night he was betrayed...

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on Earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**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.**

## The Distribution

All are invited to the Table. Come as you wish. The ushers will guide you by row.

The pastor distributes the bread. Others will distribute wine and grape juice. Simply take a pre-poured glass and return it to the empty tray.

White grape juice is provided for those who do not prefer wine. This juice is lighter in color and located in the center of the tray.

The people are invited to sing during communion.





Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMN

## Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

#256 ELW



- 1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
- 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
- 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.  
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro - claim that God's par - don waits for them!  
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.  
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

*Continued on next page*

Continued from previous page



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.  
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.  
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

#247 ELW

*O - so - sŏ o - so - sŏ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gŭm*  
1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.  
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.  
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.  
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

*u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sŏ.*  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.  
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

# WE ARE SENT OUT TO LOVE

## SENDING BLESSING

### SENDING HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound

#239 ELW



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Be wise. Be Kind. Let Love Abound. **Thanks Be to God!**

### POSTLUDE

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Jonathan Reuss

## SERVANT'S SCHEDULE

### Assisting Minister

Dec 12 — Thom Eaton  
Dec 19 — Kimberly Milham

### Lector

Dec 12 — Thom Eaton  
Dec 19 — Caroline Alabach

### Altar Preparation

Dec 12 — Amy Sigmar  
Dec 19 — Caroline Alabach &  
Jeanne Moussette

### Counters

Dec 12 — Ralph Hendrickson & Noah  
Wittner

Dec 19 — TBD

### Coffee Hour Hosts

Dec 5 — Fellowship Committee  
Dec 19 — Fellowship Committee

### Ushers

Dec 12 — Amy & Thor Sigmar

PLEASE LOOK!

### CHRISTMAS DECORATION INSERTS

Inside your bulletin you will find an insert for Christmas Decoration donations. Donna Bergeron and Jenny Ruegamer have volunteered once again to decorate for Christmas! Thank you Donna and Jenny! Suggested donations are \$12 but any amount is appreciated! Please have your donation in by December 16th in order to have your name printed in Christmas Eve's bulletin.

NEW!

### SPEAKING OF DECORATIONS...

You are invited to join in the holiday spirit by helping to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas on December 19th, right after the 10am service.

TODAY!

### ATRIUM GATHERING

There will be a Virtual Advent Gathering for Atrium children and their families at 11:30am Sunday, Dec. 5. We will gather on Zoom for a short time together where families will light their Advent wreath, read a short passage of Scripture, and hear a brief reflection about Advent. The Atrium has not been gathering in person, but are hoping to do so in the new year, after children age 5 and older have had a chance to be vaccinated.



### This Week at MLC

#### Sunday, December 5

8:15am Worship Service  
10am Worship Service

#### Tuesday, December 7

10:30am Bible Study, in person  
7pm Magnolia Big Band

#### Wednesday, December 8

9am Bible Study, Zoom  
5:15pm Bell Choir

#### Friday, December 10

8pm AA Meeting

#### Sunday, December 12, Santa Lucia

8:15am Worship Service  
10am Worship Service

IMPORTANT INFO!

### WOMEN OF THE ELCA VIRTUAL HAPPY HOUR— POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER THE NEW YEAR

Cozy up to your laptop or iPad and join our Zoom meeting with your favorite beverage. Just a time for a casual chat and check in. Stay tuned for new days & times!



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF DONATIONS

Lutheran World Relief is a wonderful organization. Through them, quilts are distributed. On the ground, they provide support and tools to help families in need to provide food for their families and grow crops that generate income for necessities like food, shelter and medicine. Not only are they fed, but children can remain healthy enough to attend school, so they can reach their full potential.

Rob and I, Kathleen, invite you to join them in donating directly to this cause. Any gift you make to the 2021 Christmas Matching Gift Challenge will be matched, dollar for dollar, to support all of the lifesaving programs and services provided to the children, women and families living in the most forsaken places on earth. You may give securely online at:

[lwr.org/ChristmasMatch21](http://lwr.org/ChristmasMatch21)

We hope that you will prayerfully consider donating to this very worthwhile organization.

Thank you, **Kathleen & Rob Rowan**

## MESSAGE FROM THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Advent is upon us, a time of longing and waiting, a time of darkness and light. Your Social Action Committee has chosen this season to focus on those at the Compass Housing Alliance who have little or nothing. There will be a Giving Tree in the Narthex after Thanksgiving. The tree is an opportunity for you to give to those less fortunate. Envelopes hanging from the Giving Tree designate shoes, socks and underwear. In addition there are envelopes for gift cards to give to parents for their children's Christmas wishes. Please consider taking an envelope from the tree. Write a check for the amount on the front of the envelope and place it in the offering plate. That way we can continue to provide for those who have so little. Your Social Action Committee thanks you for your continued generosity! SAC

## WREATHS & GARLANDS ARE HERE!

If you ordered a wreath(s) or garland(s), they may be picked up any time! There is a card table set up in the breezeway where they are being stored. Please read the instructions on the table before taking your order. Thank you!

THEY'RE HERE!

## HYGIENE ITEMS NEEDED!

Compass Housing Alliance is in need of hygiene items for homeless adults. WestSide Baby needs the same, except their need is for babies. In the past we have asked that you bring in kits, however, they would rather have the loose items so that they can assemble the kits themselves. Shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste (small), deodorant (small), soap, bags (zipper); baby shampoo, diapers/pull-ups, wipes, diaper cream, bottles, sippy cups, pacifiers, etc. Please drop the items off in the marked box in the Narthex. Thank you in advance for your ongoing generosity!



**WestSide Baby**  
*basics for children in need*

COMPASS  
HOUSING  
ALLIANCE



JOIN US FOR  
**BIBLE STUDY**

In Person Tuesdays at 10:30 am  
Zoom Tuesdays at 1pm



**Making Music At MLC**

Do you like to sing? Join the Choir! The start date for choir is up in the air right now, however, if you are interested in joining speak with our awesome Music Director, Ann Simonson, or email her at [ajsi-mo@comcast.net](mailto:ajsi-mo@comcast.net). Singing is fun and good for you!

Can't sing but want to be a part of the music scene at MLC? Then the Bell Choir might be for you! No need to read music! If you're interested in joining please talk to, or email Ann Simonson. **Bell choir practices on Wednesdays at 5:30pm unless otherwise noted!**

MAKE NOTE!



**QUILTERS AND HAND WORK GROUPS**

The handwork group began meeting again on December 2nd at Valinda Morse's house. **The next meeting will be on January 27th at 1pm at Ronnie Beckerleg's.**

Thank you for all of the donations for the quilting group but right now they are not accepting any more donations.

Needlepoint

Crochet



Knit



MAKE NOTE!



**Please Remember  
In Prayer**

- Linda Kellenberger
- Dave Larson
- Brian Rowse, DVM (cousin of the Backmans)
- Don Goertzen
- Erika Simonson
- Family of Bob McIntosh
- Pauline McIntosh
- Family of J.J. Rentel
- Family of William Olden
- Family of Barbara Munro
- Samantha Scheiber
- Gudrun Brown (friend of Alice Pease)
- Liza & Bill Biscomb (Parents of Victoria Watson)
- Joi and Todd Arnston (stepdaughter and son in law to Carol Hurlburt)
- Kathi Galletly (friend of the Torellis)
- Jonathan Drugge (son of friends of Kay Thoreson)
- Family of Don Westergaard (brother of Irene Long)
- Family of David Hoffman (friend of PK's friend)
- Family of Elsie Simon
- Karen Jones (friend of Lance Grimsby)

*If we have inadvertently removed someone whom you wish to remain on the list or if you wish to add someone new, please contact the church office.*

**Last Week's Attendance**

8:15 am — 11  
10:00 am — 47

## MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Share your God-given gifts by giving generously

### Options for sharing God's gifts:

- Sunday offering
- Estate planning, stock/bond gifts
- Online banking through your financial institution

Payee – Magnolia Lutheran Church  
2414 31<sup>st</sup> Ave W, Seattle, WA 98199  
Telephone – 206-284-0155

- Computer or smartphone  
online giving:  
⇒Credit, Debit, Checking account  
⇒One-time or recurring gifts

Set up online giving on our website  
[www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com/give](http://www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com/give)

### MLC Has WiFi!

For those of you who may not know, MLC has wifi available for all who wish to use it! Select "MLC Guest" on your device, the password is:

**TumbleRibs398**

(Not for use during church of course ; )

### Financial Update As of November, 2021

\*Income — \$ 295,807

Expenses—\$ 296,112

\*Includes some prepaid pledges

## Congregation Council 2020-2021

### Council Officers:

President -- Robert Bergeron  
Vice President -- Victoria Watson  
Secretary -- Kimberly Milham  
Treasurer -- Dwight Dively  
Financial Secretary -- Alice Pease

Contact council officers at  
[council@magnolialutheranchurch.com](mailto:council@magnolialutheranchurch.com)

### Council members:

*The year listed is when the member's term ends, in June.*

#### Audit Committee

Victoria Watson (2023)

#### Columbarium Committee

Robert Bergeron (2023)

#### Fellowship Committee

Kimberly Milham (2023)

#### Finance Committee

Serena Severance (2022)

#### Nominating Committee

Robert Zierman (2022)

#### Outreach Committee

Olivia Massiamano (2023)

#### Personnel Committee

Kay Thoreson (2023)

#### Property Committee

Mike Olden (2022)

#### Social Action Committee

Shane Ruegamer (2023)

#### Stewardship Committee

Robert Bergeron, Olivia Massiamano, Serena Severance

#### Women of the ELCA

Kimberly Milham, Serena Severance

#### Worship & Music Committee

Kay Thoreson (2021)

Faith Formation—TBD

# MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

2414 31ST AVENUE WEST  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98199  
206-284-0155

ParishAdmin@MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com  
www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com

## OUR CORE VALUES

- All are welcome here.
- Everybody does something.
- There is no minimum, or maximum age for ministry.
- This is a safe place for all God's children.
- We are good stewards of God's creation.

**Altar greens** today are given to the Glory of God by Kathleen and Rob Rowan in honor of what would have been Kathleen's parent's 74th wedding anniversary.

## SERVANTS TODAY

**Assisting Minister** — Valinda Morse

**Lector** — Valinda Morse

**Ushers** - Amy and Thor Sigmar

**Altar Guild** — Amy Sigmar

**Audio** — Johnny Searle

**Live Stream** — Evan Kelly

**Counters** — John Valiton & Noah Wittner

**Coffee Hour Host(s)** — Fellowship Committee

**Pastor** — Kevin Bates

**Director of Music Ministry** — Ann Simonson

**Parish Administrator** — Nancy Searle

**Caretaker** — Mara Meloy

**Ministers** — All the Baptized Children of God

## Affirmation of Welcome

Magnolia Lutheran Church is a place where everyone can find a welcoming, caring, friendly home. Here is a sanctuary filled with the love and grace of our Lord and modeled by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We believe God's love is for everyone and so commit to provide inclusive acceptance, spiritual nourishment, inspiring kindness and a gracious and loving faith community.

We believe all of God's creations are holy and welcome to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service here. All people of every ability, race, family or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic condition and background belong here, **Reconciling In Christ**, as children of God.

All are beautiful as they are.

All are part of God's masterpiece.

All are loved as they are.

All are welcome here.

