



Sunday, December 3, 2023

*The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church
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Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God
Pulpit Supply President ~ Pastor Eric Hanson
Organist ~ Judy Rusch
Assisting Minister ~
Acolyte ~
Lector ~ Jane Furseth
Greeter ~ Barb & Curt Klemp
Ushers ~ Terland Family
Offering Counters ~ Brenda Schroeder & Leila Carl
Church Lock Up ~ Gloria Fruit

Sermon One with Children

Gathering Hymn

Fling Wide the Door

ELW 259

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.
Amen.

Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Loving and forgiving God, **we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.**

People of God, hear this glad news: by God's endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God's love, ✝ comforted by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

- ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

- ¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up-¹ on the cherubim.
²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹come to help us.**

³Restore ¹ us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD¹ God of hosts,**

how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray? R

⁵You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ for yourself. R**

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD¹ God of hosts;**

let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved. R

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—
⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—
⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Mark 13:24-37

P: the holy gospel according to John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Two

Hymn of the Day

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God’s day of restoration.

A brief silence.

Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your

promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief especially Dennis, Larry, Kathy, Sue, Cherie, Sara, Gary, Jeff, Huldah, Carroll, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert, Andy, Michelle, Karen, and the Families of Denise and Lowell. Deliver all in any need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence (*especially Francis Xavier, whom we commemorate today*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering

Offering Prayer

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

The God of glory, ✝ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

The King Shall Come

ELW 820

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

Calendar

Sunday, December 3, 2023

9:00am Worship

10:00am Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

6:00pm Worship Meeting

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

5:30pm Worship

6:30pm Confirmation

Thursday, December 7, 2023

8:00am Pin & Sew

Sunday, December 10, 2023

9:00am Worship

10:00am Coffee Fellowship

Announcements

Our Sunday School Christmas Program will be December 17, at 9am.

For many who are grieving loss, the holiday season is one of the toughest parts of the year. There will be a Blue Christmas service at East Koshkonong on December 17, at Noon, as a show of support for anyone experiencing loss during this holiday season as a reminder that they are not alone. Please spread the word to those you know who are grieving and invite them to attend.