



# First Sunday of Advent

## *The Advent Wreath*

*One of the best known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting in the midst of growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is clearly an image of everlasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes. The family gathers for prayer around the wreath.*

**Sunday, November 27, 2011**

**9:00am**

**The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church**  
454 East Church Rd., Cambridge, WI 53523  
Church Office: Phone 423-3017 ~ Fax 423-7512  
Email: [eklc@bminet.com](mailto:eklc@bminet.com)

**Interim Pastor James A. Schwarz: Phone 423-3017 ext. 2**  
**Home: 608-873-5518**  
**Email: [jimbev1@charter.net](mailto:jimbev1@charter.net)**

[www.eastkoshkonong.org](http://www.eastkoshkonong.org)

*Welcome visitors! Thank you for taking the time to fill out the communion card provided by the ushers. We believe that the host of the meal provided during worship today is Christ. Christ invites everyone to this meal, saying, “This is for you for the forgiveness of sin.” Echoing Christ, we invite everyone to this banquet. If you would like to receive deeper instruction in the Christian faith; if you desire to be baptized; or if you simply seek someone to pray with or for you, inquire of the pastor or indicate the need on the communion card. Grape juice is in the center ring of the communion tray.*

## **First Sunday of Advent**

*Thank you for observing a time of reflection & silence  
in the sanctuary prior to worship.*

Prelude.....

Advent Wreath “*Light One Candle*” .....#240 **verse 1**

Confession and Forgiveness.....Page 94

Hymn..... “*O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*” .....#241

Canticle of Praise “*Come, let us join*”.....Page 204

The Prayer of the Day.....  
**Assistant Minister:** 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.  
**Congregation: Amen.**

East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Choir..... “*Song of Advent*”

Thankoffering.....  
 Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

First Lesson.....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.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
 so that the mountains would quake at your presence —  
<sup>2</sup>as 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!

<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

<sup>4</sup>From 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.

<sup>5</sup>You 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.

<sup>6</sup>We 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.

<sup>7</sup>There 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.

<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

**Lector:** Word of God, Word of Life

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

Psalms.....Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

*Assistant Minister = A: ~ Congregation = C:*

**A:** <sup>1</sup>Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph <sup>1</sup>like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- <sup>1</sup>on the cherubim.

**C:** <sup>2</sup>**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, <sup>1</sup>and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and <sup>1</sup>come to help us.**

**A:** <sup>3</sup>Restore <sup>1</sup>us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>1</sup>shall be saved.

**C:** <sup>4</sup>**O LORD <sup>1</sup>God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your <sup>1</sup>people pray?**

**A:** <sup>5</sup>You have fed them with the <sup>1</sup>bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of <sup>1</sup>tears to drink.

**C:** <sup>6</sup>**You have made us the derision <sup>1</sup>of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh <sup>1</sup>us to scorn.**

**A:** <sup>7</sup>Restore us, O <sup>1</sup>God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>1</sup>shall be saved.

**C:** <sup>17</sup>**Let your hand be upon the one at <sup>1</sup>your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong <sup>1</sup>for yourself.**

**A:** <sup>18</sup>And so will we never turn a- <sup>1</sup>way from you;  
give us life, that we may call up- <sup>1</sup>on your name.

**C:** <sup>19</sup>**Restore us, O LORD <sup>1</sup>God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we <sup>1</sup>shall be saved.**

Second Lesson.....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.*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

**Lector:** Word of God, Word of Life

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

Gospel Acclamation “*Alleluia*” .....Page 205

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

**Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel.....Mark 13:24–37

*In today's reading, Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

<sup>24</sup>But in those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then 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.

<sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.

<sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It 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. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, 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, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon.....“Something Different for Christmas”.....Pastor Jim Schwarz

Hymn.....“*Savior of the Nations, Come*”.....#263

Apostles' Creed.....

**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.**

The Prayers of the Church.....

**Assistant Minister:** Hear us, O God,  
**Congregation:** Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace.....

The Offering and Prayer.....

The Great Thanksgiving.....Page 206

Holy, Holy, Holy.....Page 207

The Eucharistic Prayer.....Page 207

**Pastor:**...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.  
**Congregation:** **Christ has died.**  
**Christ has risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

\* \* \*

**Pastor:** To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor  
and glory in your holy church, now and forever.  
**Congregation:** **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer.....Page 208

Communion .....

The Lamb of God.....Page 208

*You are invited to sing the following hymn during the  
distribution of Communion:  
"He Came Down" #253*

Prayer after Communion.....

**Assistant Minister:** Lord God, we give you thanks  
that you have fed us even now  
with the banquet that is yet to come.  
Keep us alert for signs of your presence  
in the world around us.  
Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort  
to those in need,  
and make us bold in testifying to the light  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Congregation: Amen.**

Blessing.....

**Pastor:** God most high,  
God with us,  
God poured out on us,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Hymn..... *“People, Look East”*.....#248

**Assistant Minister:** Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

*~ Prayer Requests ~*

**Thanksgiving to God for...**

- East Koshkonong Lutheran Church's mission and ministry.
- Prayers for the ministries of Arden and Jana Haug, John and Amy Lindstrom, Lindsay Stolen, and Jens Notstad.

**God's guidance and direction for...**

- Please keep the family of Cynthia Burnside in your thoughts and prayers as we express sympathy for their loss.
- East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Call Committee
- For peace in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and among all the nations of the world.

**God's protection and safety for those being deployed...**

- Please remember all our veterans. Give them all God's comfort in their memories of war and service to their country.

**Healing and health concerns...**

- Dave Nettum
- Jerry Behm
- Julia Schremp

Please note: If you have a prayer request and want it put in the bulletin, please write it down on the back of the communion/welcome card or notify the office before noon on Wednesday. Prayer requests will remain for 3 weeks unless otherwise requested. Prayer requests week November 13, 2011

## ~Worship Assistants~

**Pastor** ~ Pastor James A. Schwarz  
**Assistant Minister** ~ Arvid Mathison  
**Lector** ~ Joy Graffin  
**Acolyte**~ Katie Dieckhoff & Emily Zahn  
**Greeter** ~ Kurt & Barb Klemp **Ushers** ~ Light Circle  
**Communion Set-up/Take down** ~ Eric & Cheryl Nuenthel  
**Communion Assistants** ~ Karen Hayes & Carolyn Lien  
**Organist** ~ Judy Rusch  
**Coffee Hour** ~ Light Circle

## ~ Announcements~

- **Thankoffering Sunday Today:** In thankfulness to God for the blessings in our lives, significant or ordinary, we give a Thankoffering which goes to support the Women of the ELCA which provides resources and events for women's ministries. This offering will be taken on Sunday, November 27th during our Sunday service. Envelopes will be available, or use one of your own, marked Thankoffering.
- **School Supply Drive at EKLC.** In this time of budget cuts and downsizing we are looking at various ways we can be of help in our local communities. Many area schools are accepting items for use in the classrooms. Cambridge Elementary School is accepting the following items: **Disinfectant wipes, Kleenex (boxes for classrooms), Expo markers and/or erasers, multi packs/colors, Crayola, jumbo size crayon for beginning students, Crayola, any water colors.** There is a collection box in the narthex for the local schools. If you are in another school district, check with your district office to find out what their needs may be.
- **Caroling to the homebound.** Would you be interested in caroling to the EKLC homebound members? Please contact the Church Office (423-3017) or Diane Luginbuhl (423-9748) by December 12th. If there is interest we will go caroling December 18th following worship.
- **John & Amy Lindstrom to share Good News at East Koshkonong December 4, 2011, at 9:00 A.M. service.** Come and hear what God has been doing through your prayers and financial partnership with the Malei people. The Malei people first heard the Good News through German Lutheran missionaries in the 1940s. Large numbers of Malei people responded and Lutheran churches now meet in every Malei village. The Good News came to them in the Jabem language and since then Malei people have been waiting to have God's Word in their own language. On December 4, 2011 come celebrate the dedication of their New Testament which took place last December. East Koshkonong Lutheran Church has been partners with John and Amy Lindstrom since they first went to Papua New Guinea in 1991. John and Amy worked with Malei believers to enable them to translate God's Word into their own language. While helping Malei people learn to use their New Testaments, John and Amy have also begun work in two languages related to Malei and hope to see translations started in additional languages. John and Amy are currently on home assignment in Minnesota until they return to Papua New Guinea in June 2012.

## ~ *Calendar of Events* ~

*Sunday, November 27, 2011*

9:00am           Worship

10:15am        Coffee Hour hosted by Light Circle

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

*Wednesday, November 30, 2011*

6:00pm           Confirmation Session

*Friday, December 2, 2011*

5:00pm           Family Focus Event: Christmas Tree Lighting in Cambridge

*Saturday, December 3, 2011*

9:30am           Women's Christmas Brunch

*Sunday, December 4, 2011*

9:00am           Worship with guests John and Amy Lindstrom

10:15am        Coffee Hour Hosted by Worship Committee

**Christmas Program Practice**

### *Women of East Koshkonong*

Women of East Koshkonong you are invited to a Brunch to start off the Christmas season, on Saturday, December 3 at 9:30 AM. The theme is Christmas Traditions, and you are invited to bring a favorite or antique Christmas decoration or idea, or a story of a family Christmas tradition. We will enjoy brunch together, then share our stories and display our decorations or ornaments, and sing some of the traditional Christmas carols. All East Koshkonong women are invited to attend and share the event.

### *Coffee Hour Schedule*

November 27, 2011   Light Circle

December 4, 2011    Worship Committee

December 11, 2011   EKLC Choir

**A coffee hour sign-up/schedule is in friendship hall if you would like to volunteer to host a coffee hour after Sunday Morning Worship.**

**Hosts are needed for January!!**