

*Second Sunday of Advent*  
*December 8, 2019*



**GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)*

*Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away. We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!*

*Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!*

*Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service.*

*Guests are invited to fill out the small green contact card in the rack in front of you and hand it to the Pastor or other worship leaders or place it in the offering plate.*

*We promise not to 'stalk' anyone – we're just trying to let you know we care.*

***Our Congregation's Mission Statement:***

***EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE***

***The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran***

*Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior*

*Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us*

*Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ*

*Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage*

*Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully*

*Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts*

**[www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT](http://www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT)**

**Check out our GROWING website at [www.GoldHillLutheran.org](http://www.GoldHillLutheran.org)**

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Pastor Trina Johnsten, interim - [PastorGoldHill@gmail.com](mailto:PastorGoldHill@gmail.com)

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Worship Leaders:** Pastor Trina Johnsten, interim

**Assisting Minister:** Vern Nielsen

**Music Ministers:** Dave Coleman

**Communion Ministers:** Dorothy Tallon, Annette Lawson

**Ushers:** Dick & Danette Fitzpatrick

**Roving Greeter:** Mike Lawson

**Additional Servant Ministers:** Tavia Broudy & Ruschelle Tyvand

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\*Indicates that congregation stands.  
Bolded texts are said in unison.

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Blessing and Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light  
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.  
As we light the candles on this wreath,  
kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,  
that we may be light shining in the darkness.  
Enlighten us with your grace,  
that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord,  
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.  
**Amen.**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel, #257, vs 1 and 4*

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.

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.

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

We gather 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.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive 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 heart;**

**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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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**                      *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry, #249*

**\*Greeting**                              page 203

**\*Kyrie**                                    page 203

**\*Glory to God**                        page 204

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.**



## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### **Gathering of Offering**

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, #631*

### **Offering Prayer**

<b>*Great Thanksgiving</b>	page 206
Holy, Holy, Holy	page 207
Words of Institution	
The Lord's Prayer	page 208
Lamb of God	page 208

### **Communion**

*All are welcome at this Table – members, guests, children, friends.*

*Communion will be served continuously today.*

*Come forward by the center aisle, find an open spot, and return to your seat by the outside aisle.*

*If you are unable to come forward, we will bring Communion to you.*

*Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.*

*Please let the communion servers know if you need these.*

### **Communion Hymn**

*O Come, All Ye Faithful, #283*

### **\*Blessing and Prayer**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **\*Benediction**

### **Announcements**

### **\*Sending Hymn**

*Prepare the Royal Highway, #264*

### **\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **Isaiah 11:1-10**

**11** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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; <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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.

### **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.**

### **Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>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”; <sup>10</sup>and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; <sup>11</sup>and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; <sup>12</sup>and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.” <sup>13</sup>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.

### **Matthew 3:1-12**

**3** In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup>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.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>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? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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.

<sup>11</sup>“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. <sup>12</sup>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.”