



Advent 3:
Rise Up
to Calm

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

a community of the cross

called to confess hope in action

worshiping · serving · inviting · connecting · giving · growing

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

5300 10th Avenue South · Minneapolis, MN 55417 · 612-825-6846 · nokomisheights.org
a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Nokomis Heights is a Reconciling In Christ (RIC) Congregation. We believe the gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally, without regard to cultural or ethnic background; race; sexual orientation; gender identity; physical or mental abilities; socio-economic, marital, or family status; gender; or age. We welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, their partners and their families into full participation in the life and ministry of this congregation.

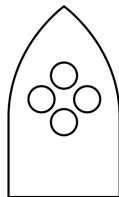
WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastors	Kristen Capel, Steven Delzer
Organist	Julie Urban
Vocalists	Kim Capel, Annika Coyle, Johan Christopherson, Carolyn Deters, Tim Wicker
Advent Candle Lighting	The Nasstrom Family
Lector	Maisie Magnuson
Children's Message	Amy Snetting
Camera/Recording	Dana Lonn

In our prayers this week: Barbara Anderson, Casey Austad, Linda Austad, Tony Carillo, Rich Gronner, Jennifer Harris, and Dee Levine; Mission Partners: Trinity and St. Peder's Lutheran churches, CES (Community Emergency Service), and Wapo Bible Camp

**Join us each Sunday at 10 a.m. for worship
Find us online on Facebook and YouTube**

www.nokomisheights.org



**NOKOMIS
HEIGHTS**

Place of Worship. Space for Questions.

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020

10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Unexpected and Mysterious”

Lasky

WELCOME

ADVENT POEM

“Some holy kinds of calm”

Sarah CR Clark

the way the house feels after the kids fall asleep
the way words fade around a campfire
the way friends share coffee and sunlight
the way a lake smooths in the morning
the way of music, especially the music of birds-of thrushes-in the evening
the way a candle’s flame stands tall and still, before the flickering
the way steam gathers on the kitchen window in winter
the way an oak trunk reaches
the way the cat sleeps, curled into itself and warm
the way the second day of a road trip unfolds
the way grandma’s house smelled
the way grass grows imperceptibly, purposefully
the way the Spirit moves among us like grass (imperceptibly, purposely)
secretly dropping seeds-sacred-at our feet
reminding us that we carry within ourselves
worlds within worlds

HYMN 257 (st. 6)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

During the singing of the hymn, the first, second, and third candles on the Advent Wreath are lit.



6 O come , O Day-spring, come and cheer; O Sun of just – ice,



Now draw near. Dis-pers-e the gloom-y clouds of night,

Continued on next page

and death's dark sha-dow put to flight. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER

L: Come, O come, God of love.
 In these candle flames, we gather together waiting for you.
 Some of us are restless, some of us are calm;
 some of us are singing out loud and some of us are just trying to breathe.
 We wait for you—your new song, a brand new day, a baby to be born—
 while the swirling stars keep watch at night.
 Come, O come, loving God.

C: Amen

WORD

VISUAL PSALM 46:10

“Be Still”

The Work of the People

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Continued on next page

;A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 a - le - lu - ya! ;A - le - lu - ya!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:26-38

L: In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?”

The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.”

Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN 258

See music on next page

“Unexpected and Mysterious”

SERMON

HYMN 715 (st. 1)

“Christ, Be Our Light”



1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Introduction

L: God of power and might, shine your radiance and come quickly to this weary world.
Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence

L: God of preachers and messengers, you have entrusted your church with the work of
proclaiming good news. Strengthen the witness of bishops, pastors, deacons, church
musicians, lay leaders, and all people who contribute their prayers and talents to
public worship. Embed your word in their hearts.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of every living creature, you announce the year of your favor for all of creation. Extend your kindness and relief to endangered animals and plants. Strengthen the human beings who rely on the rhythms of nature to make their living.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of all peoples and nations, you plant us as your oaks of righteousness and ask us to care for one another. Be present with the leaders of every nation as they govern. Give them a spirit of righteousness, that your goodness and mercy is revealed through their actions

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of exiles and wanderers, you repair what was once destroyed. We pray for people who have been displaced from their homes by fire, flood, earthquake, or storm. Support the work of Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, and all disaster relief organizations in their recovery efforts.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of the powerful and helpless, you clothe us with strength when our spirits are weak and weary. Bestow your spirit upon this congregation and empower us to comfort the people who turn to us in times of need. Make your church a place of refuge and healing.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

L: God of those who are hurting, you offer joy even in the midst of illness, pain, and grief. Comfort those who mourn, be a companion to all who are lonely, tend those who are struggling with illness of body or mind, and gather all people in your healing embrace. Today we pray especially for (*here we pray for members and friends in need of prayer*), and those we name in the quiet of our hearts.

Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

Conclusion

L: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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**

HYMN 715 (st. 2)

“Christ, Be Our Light”

2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

The musical score is written on a grand staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music. The first system has two staves of music with lyrics underneath. The second system has two staves of music with lyrics underneath. The third system has two staves of music with lyrics underneath, starting with the word 'Refrain' in italics above the first staff. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

SHARING THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

“As the Dark Awaits the Dawn”

Lasky

OFFERING PRAYER

L: God of hope—

C: **who lifts the valleys and makes the mountains bend,
we wait for you.**

**You promise a new day, a fresh start,
a child called Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Emmanuel.**

**In return we give you what we can;
our time, our wealth, our work, and our worship.**

Take our lives and make them yours.

We want to shine for you, O God.

Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

L: The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN 242 (st. 1-2, 4)

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

See music on next page

SENDING

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Moment of silence

POSTLUDE

“O Day of Peace”

Sedio

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn 242



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

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