Sunday, December 1, 2019 8:30 am Fírst Sunday ín Advent

1010 Sill St, La Crosse, WI

Love God, Love Our Neíghbors, Serve the World

*Please stand if able

Welcome

Prelude

Welcome

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ♣ one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free. Amen.

Let us come before the living God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation, we open our hearts to you, O God. Search us and know us. Reveal all that we keep inside. To you, O God, we confess our sins, known and unknown. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in your ways of justice and peace. Make us reflections of the radiant love of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen. Beloved children of the Most High, you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all. Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism, where sin is washed away in the river of life. Dwell peacefully in the loving arms of the one who nurtures all creation. Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven

in the name of the one who is coming and is already here,

✤ Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

*Gathering Hymn	"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"	#257
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verses 1-4

*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.



Canticle of Praise

pg. 122



*Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Please be seated.)

Lighting of Advent Candles

Hymn

"Light One Candle"

#240 verse 1

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." ²Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. ³Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself; ⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD. ⁵For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. ⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. ⁷Peace be within your walls and guietness within your towers. ⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity. ⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24th Chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶"About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of

Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will



be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

of all that is, seen and unseen.

(Please be seated.)

Sermon		Pastor Roger Grow
*Hymn of the Day	"He Came Down"	#253
*Nicene Creed We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,		

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

(Please extend a greeting of peace to those around you.)

(Please be seated.)

Offering

*Offering Prayer

Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger. **Amen.**

*Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Preface



*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer

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.

(Please be seated)

Communion Distribution

All who believe that Christ is truly present in this meal and are baptized are welcome to commune today. Communion today is served by intinction which simply means to come forward to the server to receive the wafer, hold on to it, then dip it into either wine or grape juice and consume the elements.

Communion Hymns:	"Let Us Break Bread Together"	#474
	"Beautiful Savior"	#838

Prayer After Communion

God of abundance, we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Announcements

*Benediction

May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice.

May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom.

May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in pathways of equity and abundance.

The blessing of the holy Trinity, № one God, be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.

***Sending Hymn** "May the Peace of the Lord" see insert

*Dismissal Go in peace. Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

