THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - "Lo, How a Rose Ever Blooming" arr. John Carter

HYMN 331 st 1, 3, 5 & 6 - we sing, standing

ADVENT WREATH ~ 1st SUNDAY

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Dear friends in Christ, today we begin the season of Advent. It is a time of watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord. The Advent wreath reminds us of our yearning for God. Its circular shape tells us of God's everlasting love and faithfulness. The four candles remind us of the passing of time, our human history into which God has entered through His Son, Jesus. On this First Sunday of Advent, we remember how our Lord was first hailed as the coming king, and we look forward to the day when our King will come again. As we light the first candle on the Advent wreath, may its flame bid us always to be ready for the coming of the Lord.

Lord Jesus, You came into the world to reveal Your Father's love. Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, by Your dying and rising You have given us the promise of eternal life. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, You ask us to be ready, watching and waiting for Your coming. Lord, have mercy.

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

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 thee, O Israel!

GREETING, followed by PRAYER
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON (bulletin back page)
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PSALM 80:1-7 - we read in unison

SECOND LESSON (bulletin back page)
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

page 156 - ALLELUIA - we sing, standing

GOSPEL (bulletin back page)
Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord!
After, all shout: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 332 st 1 to 4 & 8 - we sing, seated

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

OFFERTORY - See insert

"My Lord What a Morning" tune Burleigh; arr. Gehring - we sing, seated

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: Hear our prayer!

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN 349 - we sing, standing

POSTLUDE- "Variations on an Ancient Noel" by Rogues

NEWS AND NOTES

Altar Flowers this morning are from Pat and Judy DiDomizio in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary.

This Week Here

Wed - 1:30PM - Bible Study - bring mask

- 7:15PM - Bell Choir - bring mask

- 8:00PM - Parish Choir - bring mask

Last Sunday Here

Worshiping: 50 Offering: \$3,085

Visit our Website to experience a video taken recently by a drone flying over our beautiful church property - it includes our columbarium and memorial garden: <a href="https://cheshirelutheran.org/clc-drone-video-drone-vid

october-2020/. Information on our columbarium can also be found through the following link: https://cheshirelutheran.org/memorial-garden-columbarium/.

Offering Envelopes are on the hallway table. If you have not already done so, please pick yours up this morning. Pledge packets were mailed out this past week. Please assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations by returning your pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!

Food Contributions benefiting Cheshire Food Pantry totaled 173 lbs collected for Thanksgiving baskets and 1,569 lbs collected through Feed NE2020. THANK YOU!

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

The Lord Jesus Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us - Although we pray that God "would rend the heavens and come down" (Is. 64:1), that He would take vengeance against our enemies, we ourselves "have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment" (Is. 64:6). We have continued in our sins for "a long time, and shall we be saved?" (Is. 64:5). Yet, the Lord does not punish us in anger. He comes in voluntary meekness and humility to save us by His grace. Just as He once came into Jerusalem to sacrifice Himself for us upon the cross (Mark 11:4–8), He still comes to His Church with the fruits of His Passion. By His ministry of the Gospel, we are "enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge," and so He will "sustain you to the end" (1 Cor. 1:5, 8). Although "heaven and earth will pass away," His words "will not pass away" (Mark 13:31). As He sends disciples to call us to Himself in the fellowship of His Church, so will He "send out the angels" to gather us and all of His elect "from the ends of the earth" to Himself in heaven forever (Mark 13:27).