

**WELCOME:**

**GATHERING SONG:** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

**Verse 1:**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

**Refrain:**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:**

Watch and wait for the coming of Christ! Each week of Advent we will light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, as we welcome these gifts of the Christ child born in our hearts to share with the world.

On this First Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of hope. May its light remind each of us of God's great promise of our hope of new life in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.  
Help us to prepare for your Advent within the world,  
Prepare our hearts to receive you in hope,  
and send us to share your hope in love. Amen.

**OFFERING:**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "Angels From the Realms of Glory" with "Emmanuel" - Joni Van Rossum (piano)  
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*Desert Cross Lutheran Church  
Gilbert, AZ*

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 64:1-9

*Reader Evan Cain*

<sup>1</sup>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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** "Come, Light Our Hearts"

For You, O Lord our souls in stillness wait  
For You, O Lord our souls in stillness wait  
Truly our hope is in You  
Truly our hope is in You

CCLI Song # 7054135 Sandra McCracken  
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**GOSPEL:** Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>"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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON:** Pastor Doris Nolan

**SERMON SONG:** "Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel  
His name is called Emmanuel  
God with us revealed in us  
His name is called Emmanuel

**(Repeat)**

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*Desert Cross Lutheran Church  
Tempe, AZ*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

Let us pray.

Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*[A brief silence.]*

God of promise, your reign has come near. Call your people to the way of repentance and inspire your church to bear fruit in the world through acts of faithful service. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, teach those with power and privilege to serve the vulnerable. Give to all leaders wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, and a heart of compassion for the world you so love.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of the poor, set tables of abundance in all places where hands are empty, where stomachs ache with hunger, and where hearts and minds suffer pain. Feed and heal all who are in need, and fill with hope all who suffer from chronic pain, terminal illness, and COVID-19. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of eternal life, you promise to take away our sin and gather us in your care forever. We give thanks for those who now rest from their labors on earth, freed from pain and the power of death.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

## **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.



**SENDING SONG:** "Sing to the King"

**Verse 1:**

Sing to the King Who is coming to reign  
Glory to Jesus the Lamb that was slain  
Life and salvation His empire shall bring  
And joy to the nations when Jesus is King

**Chorus:**

Come let us sing a song  
A song declaring that we belong to Jesus  
He is all we need  
Lift up a heart of praise  
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus  
Sing to the King

**Verse 2:**

For His returning we watch and we pray  
We will be ready the dawn of that day

**BENEDICTION:**

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,  
the long-expected Savior fill your heart with hope,  
the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,  
✠ now and forever.  
Amen.

**Musicians:** Daniel Decker (vocalist), Michael Lottes (vocalist) and Joni Van Rossum (piano)

We'll join in singing with all the redeemed  
'Cause Satan is vanquished  
and Jesus is King

**Chorus:**

Come let us sing a song  
A song declaring that we belong to Jesus  
He is all we need  
Lift up a heart of praise  
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus  
Sing to the King

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