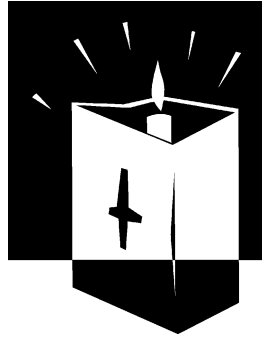


*The Holy Spirit  
gathers us in unity on the  
first day of the week.*

*Composer, organist and teacher Charles Callahan (b. 1951) has taught Catholic University, Middlebury College, Baylor University, Rollins College and the Bermuda School of Music. He has served as organist and music director for churches in Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., New York, Vermont and his native Massachusetts. Dr. Callahan performed here at Central at an event in the 1990s.*



# HOLY COMMUNION

*Advent 1  
Jeremiah's Letter to the Exiles*

Sunday, November 28, 2021  
8:30 a.m. Eucharist

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*Exploring the promise of God for all*

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## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Advent Prelude on the Gregorian Hymns

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" "Creator of the Stars"

Charles Callahan

*(Please stand at the sound of the bell)*

### OPENING DIALOGUE

**P** Now the heavens whisper, the veil grows dim.

**AI** Hearts grow soft to welcome him.

**P** Earth awakens from slumber, listening to the stirring within.

**AI** Hearts grow warm to welcome him.

**P** Deeply planted seed of promise springs forth from Jesse's stem.

**AI** Teach our hearts to welcome him.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**AI** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

We search for you, O Lord, and you gather us together from far and wide.  
Bless this never-ending circle as we gather under its reminder of your  
promises. We pray this in all your holy names,

**AI** Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14

Today's narrative reading is from the book of Jeremiah:

<sup>1</sup>These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

*God speaks to us in  
scripture reading,  
preaching, and song.*

<sup>4</sup>Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: <sup>5</sup>Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. <sup>6</sup>Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. <sup>7</sup>But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. <sup>8</sup>For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, <sup>9</sup>for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup>Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup>When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, <sup>14</sup>I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Word of God. Word of life.

**AD** **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand)*

#### **GOSPEL READING**

John 14:25-31

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**AD** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. <sup>30</sup>I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; <sup>31</sup>but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**AD** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

#### **SERMON**

Powell (b. 1932) served as Alec Wyton's assistant at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He has held positions at St. Paul's School (Concord, NH), Christ Church Cathedral (Greenville, SC). He has composed in all genres common to church music including anthems, service music, hymn concertatos, music for organ and handbells.

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

"People, Look East"

French Advent Carol, arr. Robert Powell

*(Please stand)*

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**A** As we wait and watch, let us pray for the church, the world, and all God's creation.

*(We offer our prayers using a sung response)*

To you all hearts are o - pen, to  
 you all de - sires known. To you there are no  
 se - crets, al - might - y God; we come to you.

*Each petition concludes:*  
 (Sung Response)

- P** Into your hands gracious God we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your promise to hear our prayers.
- A** Amen.

## MEAL

### PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you all.
- A** And also with you.

*(Please remain standing)*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

- P** Faithful and hidden Lord, when your people were in exile. . .  
 . . . Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever,
- A** Amen.



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

## LORD'S PRAYER

☞ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

"Aria"

Charles Callahan

*(Please stand)*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

☞ Let us pray.

Most High God,  
you have come among us at this table.  
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,  
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,  
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

☞ **Amen.**

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

## SENDING

## BENEDICTION

☞ The God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that we may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

☞ **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

"Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

(see end of bulletin)

## DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace, serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

*The text of this hymn by Mary Louise  
Bringle which included in All Creation  
Sings, the ELCA's new worship  
supplement, serves as the theme for our  
Advent worship.*

*A student of Harald Rohlig, Ann Labounsky and Steven Cooksey, composer Aaron Shows (b. 1989) is organist at First United Methodist Church (Pasadena, CA) and on the music faculty of Glendale Community College. In addition to his work at the church and school, his improvisation posts are popular on YouTube and Instagram. This postlude is from a collection published by Augsburg Fortress.*

## POSTLUDE

“Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People

arr. Aaron Shows

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## SERVING TODAY

Pastor Stephanie Friesen *presiding*

Pastor Melissa Pohlman *preaching*

Jack Friesen *assisting minister*

Sara Gunsch *reading*

Deacon Cantor Mark Sedio,

Isaac Drewes *organists*

Ian Snyder *violinist*

Mark Kieffer *sound operator*

Richard Stegall, Diane Olson,

Bill Masche *sacristans*

*usher ministry team*

*This service is being streamed live on the internet at [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org).*

*Chancel flowers this weekend are given by the Floral Guild.*

*If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi at 612-788-1288.*



Central Lutheran  
MINNEAPOLIS

Exploring the promise of God for all  
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612-870-4416 | [centralmpls.org](http://centralmpls.org)

"Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.  
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.  
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:  
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.  
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!  
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.  
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.