FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Hope

November 28, 2021

WELCOME



Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus. As we worship, we pray that you will open your heart in preparation as our Savior comes to us through the word and sacraments. If you are a guest, please sign your name, address and most importantly your phone number in our Guest Book in the entrance and come and worship with us again. If we can be of assistance to you in your spiritual walk through life please let us know. We invite you to join us for refreshments after the service in the room adjoining the worship facility.

AS WE GATHER

Advent is a season for us to grow in hope. We gather amid a world that in many ways seems hopeless. Extremists on both ends of the political spectrum seem to control almost everything we hear, read, and see. Deep divisions over race, politics, and economics loom over us like a dark storm cloud. How can the Church possibly make a difference in all of this? Today's Readings acknowledge the distress and fear that the world's foundations are being shaken. And right in the middle of it all, there is hope. Jesus says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away" (Luke 21:33). The prophet Jeremiah declares God's promise to restore His people and all creation. If we were left to ourselves, there would be little room for such hope. But God does not leave us alone. By His Word and Sacraments, God establishes our hearts and prepares us for Jesus' coming final restoration. Until that day, we wait, we pray, we hope.

COMMUNION PRACTICE

Lamb of God celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff;18:15-35;26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.

#PREPARATION #

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel-come You a-right?
2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair-est palms;
3 I lay in fet-ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.
4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.

[LSB 334]

Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light! And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms. I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me. Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.





O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais-es new A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em-brace





To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best. And from Your name shall nev - er With-hold the hon - or due. That will not fail or leave me As earth-ly rich - es fly. In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.



O INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the \$\phi\$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Jeremiah 33:14-15; Luke 21:27, 33, adapt.

P: The LORD says, "I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah."

C: We thank You, O Lord!

P: The LORD says, "My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up."

C: We adore You, O Lord!

P: The LORD says, "You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory."

C: We praise You, O Lord!

P: The LORD says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away."

C: We worship You, O Lord!



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One Advent candle is lit.

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 25:6-7

- P: Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.
 - A time of silence is observed.
- P: We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.
- C: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- P: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
- C: according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

HYMN "Kyrie for the Four Sundays in Advent" [verse 1] 1 For-give us, Lord, for times when hope was And when nev - er thought to For mo - ments we trust. times when we de - spair and for get That You are where all joy and truth have met. For for all for give. give us

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \$\Phi\$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

And help us hope and trust You with - out

C: Amen.

sins

₩ WORD ₩

INTROIT

Psalm 89:6, 14-16, 18; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.

- P: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.
- C: Who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD?
- P: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before You.
- C: Blessed are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face,
- P: who exult in Your name all the day and in Your righteousness are exalted.
- C: For our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.





SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection

C: we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins

P: and saved by Your mighty deliverance;

C: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

(The prophet Jeremiah foresees a day when God would come to bring righteousness to His people.)

¹⁴"The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵"In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.'

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 25:1–10; antiphon: v. 6

- P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- C: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- P: O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.
- C: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- P: Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.
- C: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.
- P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- C: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!
- P: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.
- C: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.
- P: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.
- C: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

(Paul reminds us that God can cause us to abound in love for one another as we await the coming of the Lord.)

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith. ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

- L: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

• VERSE Psalm 24:7

P: Alleluia! Alleluia! C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

P: Lift up your heads, O gates!

C: And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

P: that the King of glory may come in.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

(The kingdom of God is near.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²"Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy. Him-self a ser-vant's form puts on To set His ser-vants free. Nor let your faith-less heart de-spise The peace He comes to bring. And His true mem-bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.



5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
 Who comes to set us free,
 With Father, Spirit, ever one
 Through all eternity.

SERMON

↑ CREEDNicene Creed

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen

O PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P: As we prepare our hearts and minds for Christ's coming, we turn to the Lord in prayer.
 - A brief time of silence may be observed.
- P: O Wisdom from on high, guide Your Church throughout the world to be a demonstration of hope. Move the leaders, pastors, teachers, and all the people of our Synod to yearn for that coming day when Jesus will reign forever in justice and righteousness, and all creation will be restored. We pray,
- C: hear us, coming Lord.
- P: O Desire of nations, bless the leaders of nations, our president and Congress, our governors and local leaders. Move all leaders to cease envy and boastfulness, injustice and corruption. Guide our leaders to be honorable people who do not neglect the poor and who strive toward the flourishing of all human beings. Bless those who serve in our armed forces and lift up refugees and all victims of war. Bring peace between us and our enemies and let Your peace reign over this broken world. We pray,
- C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Dayspring from on high, come to the aid of all who are in need. As You humbly entered this world as a vulnerable baby, help all of us to enter humbly the lives of those who are sick, facing surgery, or dying, to offer comfort and hope, [especially . . .]. Bring healing according to Your will and peace to those whose suffering endures. Thank You for the work of doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals who work toward healing and restoration of wholeness. Guide scientists searching for cures for diseases that bring suffering to the world that their work might lead to healing for many. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Key of David, let Your joy, forgiveness, and peace flow freely in and among the families of this congregation. Empower parents and grandparents to love their children and children to love their parents. Watch over all who travel and comfort families who are separated by many miles. Guide families to be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Lord of might, help us during this Advent season both to look back to those days when our salvation was won in Your death and resurrection and to look forward to the day of Your return, when by Your power You will bring the dead to life and restore all creation. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: O Immanuel, You deliver Your people even from the grip of death. Comfort those who mourn and use us to express the hope that comes from trusting in You. Bring us to be with them on that great day to come, and until that day give us grace to endure life's difficulties, while also abiding in Your love. We pray,

C: hear us, coming Lord.

P: You, O Lord, know the thoughts of our hearts and hear those prayers that come to You in sighs too deep for words. All our prayer we entrust to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Plates are in the Fellowship Hall Please enter your attendance in the Record of Fellowship

★ SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

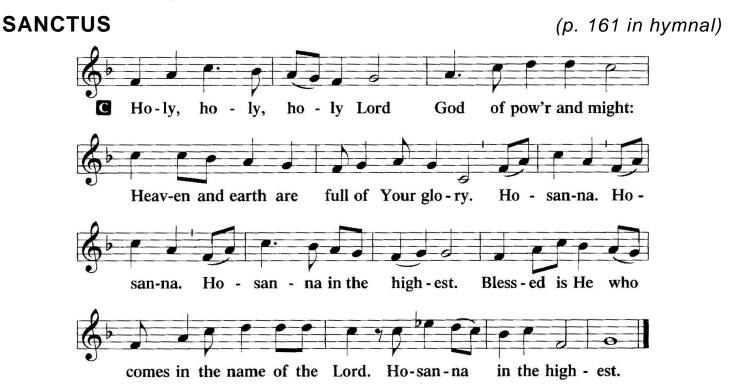
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: You, O God, bring hope into this broken and desperate world. When Adam and Eve were ashamed, You clothed them and promised a Savior. As Abraham and Sarah waited on Your promise to them, You gave them Isaac and blessed the world through him. When the Israelites faced sure death at the banks of the Red Sea, You delivered them and sustained their hope for the Promised Land. When many kings of Israel and Judah rejected Your ways, You sent the prophets to warn them and to keep alive the hope for restoration. At just the right time, You sent Your Son, Jesus, whose miracles were a sign of the world to come, a glimpse of the restoration of all creation. We thank You, praise You, and adore You for the hope You alone bring into our lives.

C: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My * body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My Φ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST 1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

- P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

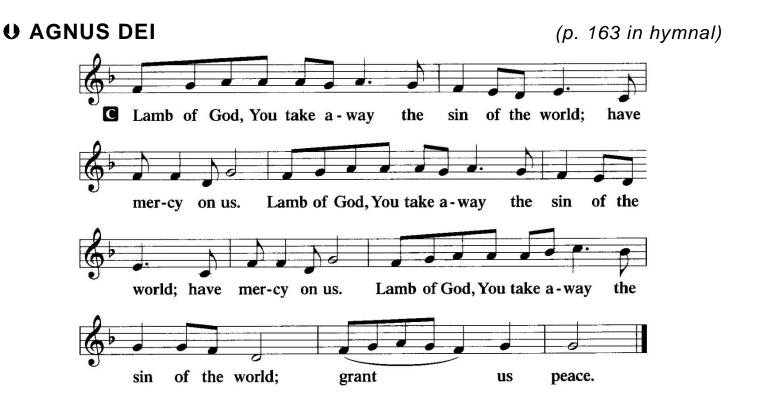
C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

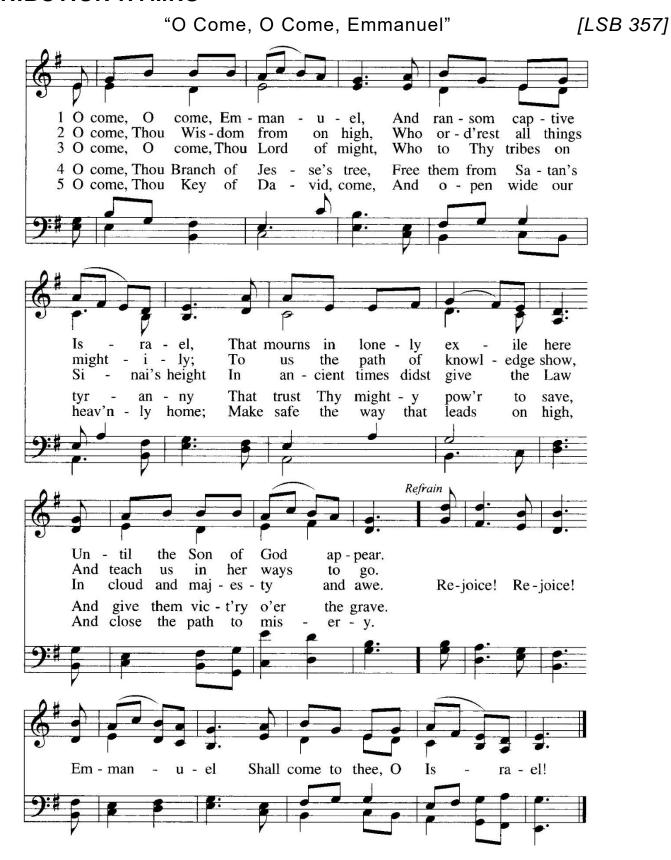
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

WE SHARE THE PEACE



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS





O POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

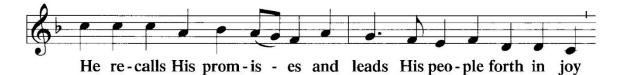
(p. 164 in hymnal)



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.





POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.

Thank You, Lord, for this gift of Christ's body and blood. Grant that His presence with us in the Meal fill our hearts with Your peace, that our hope for that great coming day of restoration may abound; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

O ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

BENEDICTION

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13; Numbers 6:24-26

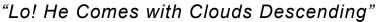
P: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, . . . so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.





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