

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 27, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

“In God We Trust” is a familiar statement. It has been the official motto of the United States of America since 1956 and has appeared on American coins dating back to 1864. As God’s people, we trust that God will keep His promises. Centuries ago, the psalmist confidently stated, “In God I trust; I shall not be afraid” (Psalm 56:11). Today we begin a new Church Year—another year of God’s grace. We can celebrate that God has brought us to this time and place and together can look trustingly to blessings and surprises yet to come.

HYMN “The Advent of Our King” LSB 331

1 The advent of our King
 Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
 In strains of holy joy.

2 The everlasting Son
 Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant’s form puts on
 To set His servants free.

3 O Zion’s daughter, rise
 To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
 The peace He comes to bring.

4 As judge, on clouds of light,
 He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
 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. Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 25:1–2a, 4–5, 21; Proverbs 3:5–6*

Pastor: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame.

People: Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

Pastor: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.

People: May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You.

Pastor: Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

People: In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Confident of receiving God's great mercy, let us confess together that we by nature are sinful and that through our thoughts, words, and deeds we have sinned against our God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

People: Almighty God, we repent of our sins and ask for Your forgiveness in our lives. Be merciful to us and for the sake of Jesus grant us remission of our sins so that, as Your redeemed people, we may greet you in Advent hope and with trusting hearts serve You in time and in eternity.

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 118:25–28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.*

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

People: Save us, we pray, O Lord! O Lord, we pray, give us success!

Pastor: Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We bless you from the house of the Lord.

People: The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

Pastor: Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

People: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

Pastor: you are my God; I will extol you.

All: 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.

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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 be saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Week 1: Coming

Today, the season of Advent begins, and the church tracks the time until Christmas with the lighting of the Advent wreath. The word *Advent* appropriately means *coming*, and that is what the season celebrates. It celebrates the coming of Christ in various ways. Each week, we will focus on a different aspect of Christ's coming, or of the season, as we light a candle on the Advent wreath.

To aid in our meditation, the hymn *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* will be used. It is written by Lutheran Pastor Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676), who is often said to be Germany's best hymn writer. His famous hymn captures the first coming of Christ, along with the anticipation of His second coming. We live in this tension. Our Lord has come, but He is coming again!

Our readings reflect the tension this morning. In our Old Testament reading, we see how God will gather the nations to His Church, the latter day Zion, through His Word. In the Epistle reading, we hear Paul capture this tension by saying, “For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.” And in the Gospel reading, we see our Lord triumphantly enter Jerusalem. However, this entry will be nothing compared to when He comes again in power and glory at the Last Day. The season’s color of blue also helps to teach this point, too. Blue is a color of royalty. Our King is coming!

As the first candle is lit to remind us how Jesus has come and will come again, we sing selected verses of *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*.

1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,
How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart’s delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please You best.

2 Your Zion strews before You
Green boughs and fairest palms;
And I too will adore You
With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever
For You with praises new
And from Your name shall never
Withhold the honor due.

3 I lay in fetters, groaning;
You came to set me free.
I stood, my shame bemoaning;
You came to honor me.
A glorious crown You give me,
A treasure safe on high
That will not fail or leave me
As earthly riches fly.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
And blessed hope to those
Who love the Lord’s appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
And guide us safely home.
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OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 2:1–5* (Isaiah proclaims the peaceable kingdom of God.) The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many 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 the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and 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 anymore. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 122*

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

People: Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Leader: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together, to which the tribes go up,

People: the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

Leader: There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.

People: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! “May they be secure who love you!

Leader: Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!”

People: For my brothers and companions’ sake I will say, “Peace be within you!”

Leader: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

EPISTLE *Romans 13:8–14* (Put on the Lord Jesus Christ as you await His coming.) Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 21:1–11* (Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, “Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Hark the Glad Sound” *LSB* 349

1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev’ry heart prepare a throne
And ev’ry voice a song.

2 He comes the pris’ners to release,
In Satan’s bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav’n’s eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

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SERMON “Advent Speedbumps” Matthew 21:1-11

- I. Speedbumps
- II. Advent is a disruption (v.1-3; 6-10)
 - How does Jesus disrupt Jerusalem with His coming?
 - How does Advent disrupt our lives?
- III. Advent focuses on Christ’s Fourfold Coming (v.4-5)
The Four Comings of Christ.
 - 1.) P_____ in the Old Testament
 - 2.) In the m_____ (past)
 - 3.) Coming in g_____ (future)
 - 4.) In W_____ and s_____ (present)
- IV. Advent answers the final question (v.11-12)
 - What is the answer of the crowd?
 - What is the answer?

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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. Trusting in Your promises, we bless You for Your abiding presence in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has come to this earth and has taken upon Himself the sins of the world. By His sacrificial death and His glorious rising from the grave, He has opened to us the very gates of heaven. With all the company around the throne of the Lamb in His kingdom, we join the unending praises singing:

SANCTUS “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Day and night we join to praise

Your love and majesty.

You alone are holy, worthy, and righteous.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

We rejoice to join the hymns

Of earth and sky and sea.

Generations praise You, with saints and angels.

Holy and bless'd through all eternity.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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 \times 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 \times 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*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: 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:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI “O Lamb of God, We Pray”

O Lamb of God, we pray:

Take all our sins away—

Our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all,

Strengthen us when we fall,

Answer our fervent call

And grant us peace.

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You are invited to receive the Lord’s Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” *LSB 806*

Give thanks with a grateful heart,

Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He’s given

Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,

Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He’s given

Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks.

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"While We Are Waiting Come" Claire Clonger & Don Cason
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1. While we are waiting, come;
While we are waiting, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come.

2. With pow'r and glory, come;
With pow'r and glory, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come.

3. Come, Savior, quickly come;
Come, Savior, quickly come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come.

BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord's body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the Church. Grant that we live trustingly and victoriously, enlightened by the working of Your Holy Spirit. As we await Your coming, direct us to do the good works that You desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with You and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN "People, Look East" *WOV 626*

1. People look east the time is near
Of the crowning of the year
Make your house fair as you are able
Trim the hearth and set the table
People look east and sing today
Love, the Guest, is on the way

2. Furrows be glad though earth is bare
One more seed is planted there
Give up your strength the seed to nourish
That in course the flower may flourish
People look east and sing today
Love, the Rose, is on the way

3. Stars keep the watch when night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim
Shining beyond the frosty weather
Bright as sun and moon together
People look east and sing today
Love, the Star, is on the way

4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth
Him who brings new life to earth
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
With the word the Lord is coming
People look east and sing today
Love, the Lord, is on the way

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Matthew 21:3 – “If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”* Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget. The blessing it is to us to be of service in the Lord’s Kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals

HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS! If you enjoy decorating for Christmas, then this event is for you! We are planning to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas at Emmaus on Saturday, December 10th, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Please sign up at the table in the church narthex. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS DECORATION DONATIONS: Sanctuary Christmas decoration donation slips are available in the narthex. Please indicate your willingness to help defray decoration costs by using the donation slip. Place in the offering plate, hand to an usher or leave it on Maria’s desk. Donation slips will be available in the narthex through December 25.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available. Hard to believe that 2023 is right around the corner but here it comes. Please stop in the narthex and pick up your offering envelopes. If you did not receive envelopes and would like them, please let Nancy W, Alan M, Pam U, Pastor or Maria know. We can certainly get you a box. If you have envelopes and currently give electronically and no longer want envelopes, please let us know and we will note that for 2024. Thank you!

SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE: We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys and gifts for kids from November 23rd through Sunday, December 11th. These toys will go to local families in need through the Salvation Army. Toys can be put in the barrel in the narthex. A Thrivent Action Grant has been received. Any Questions? Please e-mail Marie G.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “Paradise Restored” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. If God is love, what are we to make of His wrath? (Isaiah 11:1-10)

Responses to the King Advent 2022

This year, we are excited to be celebrating Advent with our brothers and sisters from Jehovah and Bethel Lutheran Churches. We will have two opportunities for midweek services:

11:30 a.m. at Emmaus Lutheran (followed by lunch)
6:30 p.m. at Jehovah Lutheran

Join us as we consider the responses of four different people to the coming of Jesus the King.

- Wednesday, November 30: “Faithful Israel Hails its King” (Joseph)
- Wednesday, December 7: “Rejoicing in the King” (Mary)
- Wednesday, December 14: “Rejecting the King vs. Departing in the King” (Herod vs. Simeon)