

First Sunday in Advent

November 27, 2022



AS WE GATHER

Today you are in a most important waiting room—every church sanctuary or other holy space in which God's people gather is, in its way, a waiting room. Together we are waiting for the greatest of all events—the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the mountain of the house of the Lord, where two or three are gathered in His name. Here God dwells and is enthroned and reveals Himself to His people. Here we keep alert, joyfully anticipating the advent of our King.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN **LSB 331 "The Advent of Our King"** (*stand for last verse*)

INVOCATION

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

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 forgiving grace 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.**

✠ WORD ✠

PSALM *Psalms 122 (responsively by whole verse)*

Pastor: 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!**

Pastor: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,

People: **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

Pastor: 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!"**

Pastor: Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!"

People: **For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"**

Pastor: For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

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.**

KYRIE **LSB 944 Kyrie – II**

HYMN **LSB 357 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [Sts. 1–2, 4]**

In Advent hope
we gather And
worship
trustingly,
Assured that
Christ is coming
To set His
people free.

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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 2:1–5 (Isaiah proclaims the peaceable kingdom of God.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 13:8–14 (Put on the Lord Jesus Christ as you await His coming.)*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL AND VERSE *Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 24:7; 118:26, alt.*

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

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

Pastor: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless You.

People: **Alleluia. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 24:36–44 (A call to faithful watchfulness)*

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CREED *The First Article*

Pastor: As we begin a new Church Year and reflect on how Jesus' coming fulfilled the Father's plan for our salvation, we speak the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and its meaning. It relates the loving work of God the Father for us. He has created and still preserves us, and in His grace, He has brought us to the beginning of a new Church Year.

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

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY **LSB 332 "Savior of the Nations, Come"** *(The Sunday School children are dismissed)*

SERMON Rev. Bryan Rosnau, Emeritus

OFFERING *(the offerings previously collected are brought forward)*

OFFERTORY **LSB 805 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**
(sung as offerings are brought forward)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray for the Church, the community of God’s forgiven people, asking that God’s messengers continue to speak with power among us and that the Word may come to us today with its message of forgiveness and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

Pastor: We pray this day for the fellowship of faith and love that we enjoy as God’s holy people, asking that we be enabled to gather for worship throughout the new Church Year with great joy and full anticipation of the blessings of God that come to us in this place. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

Pastor: We pray for those who serve in leadership positions in our national Synod, our region, and our local congregation, that God work among us through their example and witness, that we be of support and encouragement to them, and that together we grow in devotion and dedication in Jesus’ name. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

Pastor: As a household of faith, we make our petitions for the sick, the shut-in, and all who this day need our prayers, [*especially . . .*], that their prayers be answered and that they be supported by God’s people as they experience His good and gracious will for their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

Pastor: We pray for those for whom the season of Advent and Christmas is sad or challenging in some way. Help us to reach out to them with compassion, keeping our focus always on the wonderful action of God on our behalf through the coming of Jesus, the promised Messiah. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

Pastor: We remember before You those many faithful Christians who have been part of our lives and our fellowship in times past, especially those who have departed this life and now are rejoicing in the glory of Your promised heavenly kingdom. Direct our ways on earth as we complete this life in faith, that we may rejoice with them eternally together with all the saints and angels. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

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 **LSB 333 “Once He Came in Blessing”**