

**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, November 28, 2021**  
**We Await the Coming of the Messiah**

(P: pastor/leader      A: pastor/assistant      C: congregation)

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*All who are able, stand*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**P:** The day of the Lord is coming soon. The signs have been fulfilled.

**C: But who can abide the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?**

**P:** Lest that Day surprise us unawares, let us confess our sins to God our Father, imploring his forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, who will soon come as Judge and King.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

**P:** Most merciful God,

**C: We are unprepared for your coming, for we have sinned. In our thinking and speaking and doing, we have disobeyed your will. We have ignored the signs of Christ's return. We implore your forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ and seek the power of your Holy Spirit to restore our faith.**

**P:** He who is coming has come, born among us to live our life and die our death, and guarantee our resurrection. For his sake your sins are forgiven. The gifts of the Lord are yours in great abundance.

**C: Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Amen**

**THE ENTRANCE RITE**

**HYMN: "Savior of the Nations, Come" LBW 28      (Green book)**

**Savior of the nations, come; Show the glory of the Son!**

**Ev'ry people, stand in awe; Praise the perfect Son of God.**

**Not of human seed or worth, But from God's own mystic breath,  
Fruit in Mary's womb begun When God breathed the Word, his Son.**

**Wondrous birth! Oh, wondrous child Of the virgin undefiled!  
Mighty God and man in one, Eager now his race to run!**

**God the Father is his source, Back to God he runs his course;  
Down to death and hell descends, God's high throne he reascends.**

**He leaves heaven to return; Trav'ling where dull hellfires burn;  
Riding out, returning home As the Savior who has come.**

**God the Father's precious Son Girds himself in flesh to run  
For the trophies of our souls, Longer than this round earth rolls.**

**Shining stable in the night, Breathing vict'ry with your light;  
Darkness cannot hide your flame, Shining bright as Jesus' name.**

*All sit*

*The children are invited to come forward for a message.*

### **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**P:** Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!

**C:** As fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known.

**P:** One candle is set ablaze, as we wait with eager expectation for you, Lord, to come down.

**C:** Stir up your power, O Lord, and come!

*One candle is lit.*

### **ADVENT HYMN: “Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” WOV, 630, st. 1**



**P:** The Spirit and the Church cry out:

**C:** Come, Lord Jesus.

**P:** All those who await his appearance pray:

**C:** Come, Lord Jesus.

**P:** The whole creation pleads:

**C:** Come, Lord Jesus.

**P:** 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 saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

### **FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16, A righteous branch springs from David**

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’

**P:** The word of the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God!

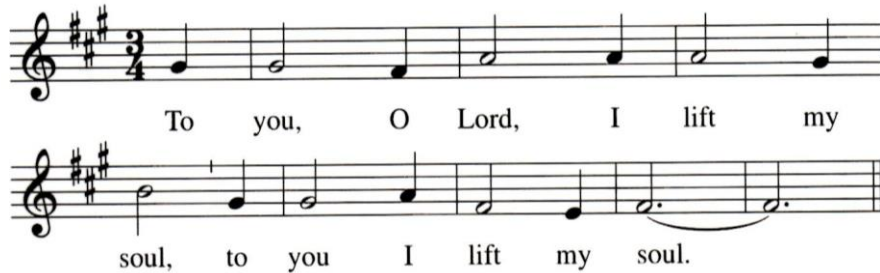
## PSALM 25

*The cantor sings the antiphon. The people repeat it.*

*The cantor sings the verses.*

*The people sing the antiphon where indicated.*

### Antiphon:



Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me, for you are God my savior.

In you I hope all the day long. **Antiphon**

The Lord is good and upright, showing the path to those who stray,

Guiding the humble in the right path and teaching the way to the poor. **Antiphon**

God's ways are steadfastness and truth for those faithful to the covenant decrees.

The Lord's friendship is for the God-fearing; and the covenant is revealed to them. **Antiphon**

### SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Strengthen hearts of holiness

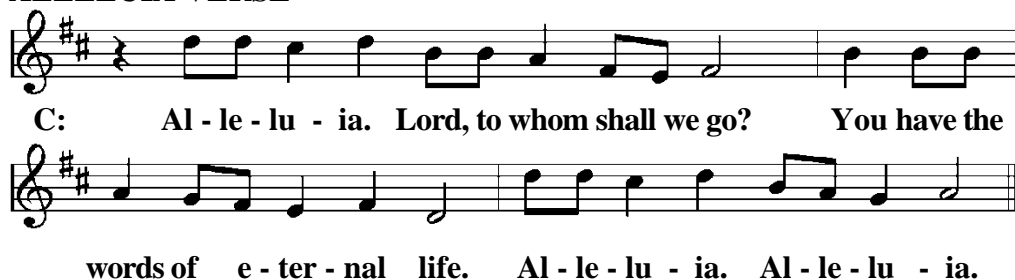
For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, <sup>12</sup>and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, <sup>13</sup>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.

**P:** The word of the Lord.      **C:** Thanks be to God!

*All who are able, stand*

### ALLELUIA VERSE



## **GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36, Watch for the coming of the Son of Man**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-first chapter.    **C: Glory to you, O Lord!**

“And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.    **C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

*All sit*

*PRAYER CARDS can be handed towards the center aisle and given to an usher.*

## **SERMON**

*All who are able, stand*

**HYMN: “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” LBW 31                      (Green book)**

**Wake, awake, for night is flying, The watchmen on the heights are crying:  
Awake, Jerusalem, at last. Midnight hears the welcome voices, And at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
Come forth, you maidens! Night is past. The bridegroom comes !  
Awake; Your lamps with gladness take!” Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord,  
Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.**

**Zion hears the watchmen singing, And in her heart new joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom, For her Lord comes down all glorious,  
The strong in grace, in truth victorious. Her star is ris’n; her light is come.  
Oh, come, You Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God’s own Son. Sing hosanna!  
We go until the halls we view Where you have bid us dine with you.  
Now let all the heav’ns adore you, And saints and angels sing before you.  
The harps and cymbals all unite. Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where, dwelling with the choir immortal, We gather round your dazzling light.  
No eye has seen, no ear Has yet been trained to hear, What joy is ours!  
Crescendos rise; your halls resound; Hosannas blend in cosmic sound.”**

## **NICENE CREED**

**C:** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

## **PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS**

**P:** Waiting and watching for our sure and certain hope, let us pray for the world redeemed, the church reformed,  
and for all people restored in the coming one.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**A:** Lord, in your mercy,

**C:** hear our prayer.

*The prayers conclude:*

**P:** Alert and on guard for the coming of the Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting all things to your  
never-failing love in Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C:** Amen

**P:** Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**C: 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**

## **BENEDICTION**

**P:** 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**

**DISMISSAL HYMN: “The Advent of Our God” LBW 22 (Green book)**

**The Advent of our God Shall be our theme for prayer;  
Come, let us meet him on the road And place for him prepare.  
The everlasting Son Incarnate stoops to be,  
Himself the servant’s form puts on To set his people free.  
Come, Zion’s daughter, rise To meet your lowly king,  
Nor let your faithless heart despise The peace he comes to bring.  
As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again,  
And all his scattered saints unite With him on high to reign.  
Before the dawning day Let sin be put to flight;  
No longer let the law hold sway, But walk in freedom’s light.  
All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.**

We strive to use our gifts and the best resources available to support people in their faith. To inquire about our sermons and/or the resources used to produce them please contact us through our church office. To God be the glory!

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“Savior, of the Nations Come” LBW 28; “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying” LBW 31; “The Advent of Our God” LBW 22: Texts: Public Domain.

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## PRAYER CARD

If you have a Prayer Request, use the **YELLOW** card that is available in the narthex, from an usher, or in the pew racks. Ushers will collect the cards before the Sermon so that prayers can be offered during the Intercessions.

If you are visiting with us, please use the Information Update on the reverse side of the card. Include your name and address and other important information. If our congregation can assist you in any way, please put that information on the card or speak to the Pastor.

## ASSISTANCE

The ushers can supply parents of small children with soft toys, books, and a weekly children's worship bulletin. The parlor (the room behind the sanctuary) has a loud speaker and window so that, if necessary, parents can use it as a cry room and still see and hear the service. Large-print editions of our worship service are also available from the ushers.

## HOLY COMMUNION

Based on the teachings of Scripture and in response to the Lord's admonition that, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup (1 Cor. 11:28)," we ask that those who attend the Lord's Supper ask of themselves the following questions:

1. Do you believe that you are a sinner in need of God's grace? (1 John 1:8-9)
2. Are you truly sorry for your sins? (1 Cor. 11:26-29)
3. Do you believe in Jesus as your Savior? (Romans 5:6)
4. Do you intend with the aid of the Holy Spirit to amend your sinful life? (2 Cor. 5:15)
5. Do you believe you receive Christ's true body and blood in the Lord's Supper?  
(Mark 14:22-24)
6. Do you trust God and His promises and accept as true all He teaches in Holy Scriptures? (John 8:31-32)
7. Have you been baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?  
(Matthew 28:19-20)

If your answer to these questions is yes, then we welcome you to the Lord's Supper. If you have any questions, burdens, or doubts concerning the sacrament, please speak with the Pastor before communing. Adults and children not receiving the Body and Blood of Christ may instead come forward to receive a blessing. Please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

**Gluten free rice** wafers are available. Please indicate this by clearly raising your index finger. Those who wish may use the method of intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) for receiving the sacrament. You may receive the wine from either an individual cup or the common cup. In the center of the individual cup tray will be cups holding **white grape juice** for anyone who would prefer that over wine.

Please inform an usher if you are unable to come to the altar; the elements will be brought to you.



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