

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2021 5:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021 8:15 AM**

**REV. MATTHEW CLARK**  
Senior Pastor

**REV. MATTHEW KOBS**  
Assistant Pastor

**GABE MAICHEL**  
Director of Music

**PAMELA FOX**  
Office Manager

**VICAR JOHN GURUNG**  
Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology

**GAGAN GURUNG**  
Nepali Evangelist

**CHRIS & KATHY THIES**  
Youth Ministry

**CRAIG MATTES**  
Communications Coordinator

**GEORGE LLUKA**  
Maintenance Technician

**BARBARA HARTUNG**  
Parish Nurse

**CLAUDIA SEIFERT**  
Parish Librarian



**LOVED BY CHRIST**  
**SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE**  
  
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
Word of Life Lutheran School

**WEEKEND WORSHIP TIMES**  
5:00 pm Saturday Worship  
8:15 am Sunday Worship  
9:45 am Sunday School and Bible Class  
11:00 am Sunday Worship (Contemporary Music)

# FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 27 & 28, 2021 5:00 PM & 8:15 AM

## 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.

**PRELUDE AN ADVENT ALLELUIA**

ASCENSION CHOIR

**RINGING OF THE BELLS** - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*

**WELCOME**

✠PREPARATION ✠

**OPENING HYMN: COME THOU PRECIOUS RANSOME COME**

LSB 350

*(Please Stand)*

**LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE**

**P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

**C** **the light no darkness can overcome.** [*John 8:12; John 1:5*]

**P** Let Your light scatter the darkness

**C** **and illumine Your church.**

**HYMN: WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE** The Candle of Hope

OAR 172, v. 1

**We light the Advent candle And wait for Christ to come.**

**With hope, we trust the promise That He will bring us home.**

**Our hope is in our Savior Who wins for us God's favor.**

**We wait with growing light Till God makes all things right!**

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**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)*

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

**C** **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8–9*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**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 Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19–23]*  
**C** **Amen.**

(or)

**A** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*  
**C** **Amen.**

‡ SERVICE OF THE WORD ‡

**ADVENT VERSE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL** *LSB 357, v. 1 & 2*  
**O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.**

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel!  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord’rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain**

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come,  
**C** **that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance;**

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

*(Please Be Seated)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Jeremiah 33:14–16*

<sup>14</sup>“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.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *1 Thessalonians 3:9–13*

<sup>9</sup>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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

**GOSPEL VERSE: COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS** *LSB 338, v. 1*

**Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 21:25–36*

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

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>[Jesus said:] “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** This is the Gospel of Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 207

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.

*(Please Be Seated)*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE 8:15AM

HYMN OF THE DAY: PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY

LSB 343

## SERMON

*(Please Stand)*

## 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. 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. 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. We pray,

**C** **hear us, coming Lord.**

*(Special Petitions)*

- 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.

*(Please Be Seated)*

## GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

*Your tithes and offerings shape the lives of people through the Gospel of Jesus Christ for now and eternity. Thank you for your generosity! "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7*

### OFFERTORY 5:00PM HARK THE GLAD SOUND

LSB 349, v. 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.**

### OFFERTORY 8:15PM JESU JOY OF MAN'S DESIRING

ASCENSION CHOIR

## ⚦ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ⚦

*We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper.*

*How should we each examine ourselves before coming to Holy Communion?*

- 1. Be aware of our sins and be sorry for them*
- 2. Believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in His words in the Sacrament*
- 3. Intend, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as God's forgiven people walking in newness of life*

## PREFACE

**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 singing:

### HYMN VERSE: HARK THE GLAD SOUND

LSB 349 v. 2

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

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 209

**P** Hear us as we pray in His name as He has taught us:

**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.**

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 209

**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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI *The Peace of the Lord John 20:19*

LSB 209

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

**C** Amen.

## HYMN VERSE HARK THE GLAD SOUND

LSB 349 v. 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.**

*(Please Be Seated)*

## $\text{✠}$ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS $\text{✠}$

**THE KING SHALL COME WHEN MORNING DAWNS  
TELL OUT MY SOUL, THE GREATNESS  
LIFT UP YOUR HEADS YE MIGHTY GATES**

LSB 348

LSB 935

LSB 340

*(Please Stand)*

## DISMISSAL

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN VERSE: JOY TO THE WORLD

LSB 387, v.1

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

## BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION *Psalms 103:1*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**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. *Numbers 6:24-26*

**C** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN: LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING**

*LSB 336*

**POSTLUDE**

*Organ*

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