

Immanuel Lutheran Church
First Sunday in Advent, Christ Comes in Three Ways
November 27, 2022 at 8:00 and 10:15 am

(Throughout this Advent Season we are looking at the message of the Stars. The truths of the Word and the revealing of the wisdom of our Omniscient God. Only our Father in heaven could: love us deeply enough, have the amount of wisdom it takes, have a Plan which could be carried out despite sinful man, and give promises of what would take place in the future and never fail to fulfill them.)

The Advent Season is what begins this day. This service is intended to re-iterate the purpose of the season, the message of the season, and the importance it brings to the church in helping us to understand and celebrate the wondrous gift of the Christ-Child coming into our world. **Advent Season** reveals the Father's actions throughout the history of His people to bring His Savior into the world. **Advent Season** also focuses on Christ revealing Himself in His ministry on this earth.

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: *"The Advent of our King"* 331

Invocation: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C:** *Amen*

P: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. **C:** *Our God shall come; He does not keep silence.*

P: Prepare the way of the Lord. **C:** *Make His paths straight.*

P: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness. **C:** *Let the earth open, that salvation may bear fruit and sprout forth.*

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting, **C:** *The name of the Lord is to be praised.*

Confession and Absolution:

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: 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 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. **C: Amen**

The Advent Season gives us time to focus on the **Three Comings of Christ**: *once in the flesh; now in His Word and Sacraments; and at the Last Day for judgment and the resurrection---* all to save us.

We in faith believe and know the Lord was born in Bethlehem to a Virgin named Mary. That day, God came in the flesh to bring life and salvation to His own.

We in faith believe and know He is present in our lives through His Word, (the Holy Scriptures) and His Sacraments (Baptism and Lord's Supper). He comes to us to touch us spiritually and bring us the blessings of faith through His Holy Spirit. He daily renews us and grants us cleansing forgiveness.

We in faith believe and know He will one day return and all believers will join Him in entering into His eternal kingdom.

Introit: Psalm 122

P: I was glad when they said to me, **C: "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"**

P: Our feet have been standing **C: Within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

P: Jerusalem – built as a city **C: That is bound firmly together,**

P: To which the tribes go up, for the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel. **C: To give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

P: There thrones for judgment were set **C: The thrones of the house of David.**

P: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! **C: May they be secure who love you!**

P: Peace be within your walls **C: And security within your towers!"**

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

P: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, **C: 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.

Collect: *Gracious Lord of heaven and earth, enlighten our minds and enrich our hearts with the truths of Your Word which tell us of the wonder of Your love for us and for all mankind. Lead us Lord to grow in our understanding of Your gift of salvation so we can share the hope You have placed in our hearts. Guide us daily to live our faith and to witness of the faith we have in the Promised Christ-Child; we pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

Hymn: "You Are the Way; through You Alone" 526

Advent- is a time of expectancy and preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth. We who know what His birth means to our lives and our salvation; desire to focus on what really matters and take the time and steps to prepare our hearts and minds to remember the birth of Christ and all that this means. We celebrate **Advent** to reiterate the fact that Christ came into the world as the Child of the Almighty God and the son of Mary.

O. T. Lesson: *Isaiah 2: 1-5*

Advent is the revealing of the Father's love for mankind. It is a clear vision given to us of the Father's Plan to bring to mankind hope. **Advent** points us to the steps taken by the Father to bring to His own the blessing of His grace and the unique gift of the Promised Messiah: David's "son" would be born into this world and be King; He would renew the hearts of His people; and He would build them a kingdom which would last throughout all eternity. The Promised One, David's son, would be born of a virgin, so there is no doubt He would be a miracle Child and the Son of the Heavenly Father.

Epistle Lesson: *Romans 13: 11-14*

Advent points us to how God made all the preparations to bring His Son into the world. **Advent** now enables us to be shown, through His Word, all the Father did and the blessings He bestowed. **Advent** is our time to be prepared: through the Word and all it reveals to us; through prayer and seeking His blessing and wisdom; and through the worship and praise of our Lord.

Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 21: 1-11*

Advent proclaims this truth: *The Almighty Father alone could reveal His Plan and work.* We are so blessed to be His own and to know what He has done for all mankind. In faith, He continues to reveal to us the wonder of His Plan for all His own. We so look forward to when He returns again.

Confession of Faith: *Nicene Creed (back of hymnal)*

Hymn: "Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates" 341 vs. 1-3

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Offering

Prayers: The families of: Stremming, Wally and Gayle; Strieter, Brenda, Strieter, George

Lord's Prayer:

Hymn: "The Day is Surely Drawing Near" 508 vs. 1, 5, 6

Advent is when we remember the promise God gave to Abraham, which began the journey which would lead to the Savior. Throughout the history of God's people we are shown how God, in His grace, worked around all the obstacles sinful man threw in the way; and made sure His Savior would come into the world. We know that God became flesh and dwelt among us. We know this was our Lord Jesus Christ.

Closing Collect: *Heavenly Father, You grant us Your Spirit to open our eyes and enlighten our minds to serve You and fellow believers; lead us by Your Spirit to enable us to witness of Your love, live according to Your will, bring Your Word of life to others, rejoice in the goodness You have showered upon us, and reflect Your love in how we reach out to others; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.*

Benediction

Organists: Matt Wilson 8:00 am Karen Whitehead at 10:15 am

(Advent points us to when our Lord first came into this world as a newborn Child. Advent also gives us an opportunity to reflect on our Lord being present in His Word and Sacraments to touch us each day with His Spirit to uplift and bless us. Advent points us as well to the promise of His Second coming and how He will return as the Victorious King and Savior of all His own. Jesus will return as the glorious Lord and He will take us with Him into His eternal kingdom. What we celebrate in knowing our Messiah will be born; leads us to celebrate what this Child will be for us forever: our Everlasting God.)

Advent



About the Cover

Behold (Christ incarnate was able to be seen with human eyes and will be seen again, God in the flesh), your king (Jesus is king of kings, who reigns over all, and at the same time is our king) is coming (Jesus came on the first Christmas, He came into His Holy City to die and rise, and He will come again) to you (He has done it all for you for your forgiveness and eternal life).

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:1–5

- ¹ The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
- ² 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,
³ 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.
- ⁴ 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.
- ⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

Epistle: Romans 13:11–14

¹¹Besides 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. ¹²The 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. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:1–11

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying 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. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them;’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵ “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.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And 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!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”