

First Sunday in Advent

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion **is** a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Prelude

Word of Welcome

Opening Hymn *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding* *LSB 345*

Lighting of the Advent Candle *Isaiah 2:2-3, 5; Psalm 119-105*

Hymn *The Candle of Hope* *Back Page*

Confession and Absolution *Page 203*

Service of the Word

Introit

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

C: **Who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD?**

P: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

C: **Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O LORD, in the light of your face,**

P: who exult in your name all the day and in your righteousness are exalted.

C: **For our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

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.**

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

Kyrie

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

All: 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. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Gradual

ALL: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you. Amen.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Alleluia and Verse

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Holy Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

Nicene Creed

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Hymn of the Day

Behold a Host, Arrayed in White

LSB 676

Sermon Theme & Text

"Watch and Pray" Luke 21:25-36

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord of all, Your Son declared that if His disciples ceased praising Him, the very stones would cry out. Receive our thanks that You continue to preserve Your Word among us. Even in a world that opposes Your name, grant us tongues that joyfully declare Your praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O Lord, we often use the cares of this life as excuses for dissipation, drunkenness and distraction from You and Your promises. Guard us from temptations that would harm our faith and cause us to fear Your coming. Preserve us by Your grace, that we may wait with joy to stand before the Son of Man in glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: Almighty God, grant us repentant hearts and increase our love for one another, that we may show forth our faith in good works. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: O Lord, our King, righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne, and steadfast love and faithfulness go before You. Watch over the authorities of our land, and grant that they would govern justly so that we may live in peace as we proclaim Your love and faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: We give thanks to You, O God, that as You establish our hearts blameless in holiness before You, so You also provide for all our needs in this body and life. Hear our earnest prayers for those who are in need of Your mercy, and comfort all who mourn until the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: Blessed are You, O Lord, and blessed is Your Son, Jesus Christ, who came in Your name to save us from sin and death. As He visits us this day with His body and blood under the bread and wine, give us penitent hearts that worthily welcome His coming and rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: God our Father, You have loved and chosen us according to Your mercy and called us through the living voice of Your Word. Grant to us the Spirit of Your grace, that what You have begun in us may be brought to completion when Christ appears in His glory on the Last Day; for You live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

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The Words of Our Lord	
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<i>Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending</i>	<i>LSB 336</i>
<i>Amazing Grace</i>	<i>LSB 744</i>
<i>Lord Jesus, Think on Me</i>	<i>LSB 610</i>
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Announcements

Postlude

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The Candle of Hope

Text: Carolyn Gillette

Tune: Lyons
10.10.11.11

1 The can - dle of hope we light in this hour
 2 The can - dle of peace shines bright with God's plan;
 3 The can - dle of joy re - minds us to sing.
 4 The can - dle of love tells what we are worth:

4 Pro - claims that the Lord is com - ing in power,
 A means for sal - va - tion since time be - gan.
 For God is at work to do a new thing.
 God loves us so much, He came to the earth!

9 We wait for a fu - ture, now hid - den from view,
 A Sav - ior be - got - ten of God; Prince of Peace.
 The proud will be hum - bled; the low - ly will rise.
 An an - gel brought news of a Child who would be

14 When Christ in his glo - ry will make all things new.
 A ran - som for sin, bur - dened souls to re - lease.
 God's king - dom is one of de - light and sur - prise!
 the One who would save us and set us all free.