

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MISSION STATEMENT:

*In response to God's love for us, we SERVE God,
SUPPORT Christian fellowship,
And SPREAD the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people*

Volume 76

November 29, 2020

No. 48

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:00 AM

AS WE GATHER – We begin a new Church Year boldly begging for the advent of our risen Lord Jesus, His final coming to rescue and save us. Our boldness, however, is tempered with the humility of faith that says, "Nevertheless, Thy will be done." For we know and even expect that His answer to our prayer will be hidden in mystery. It may be the mystery of our continued cry for mercy or the surprise of His final advent as victorious Lord and Judge of all. We know what followed our Lord's humble entry into Jerusalem that great and holy week of His passion, namely, the mystery and surprise that His victory and the glory of God should be displayed for all the world on a cross. So today we pray with bold humility and confidence, for His coming and deliverance will always have a note of surprise—blessed surprise.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

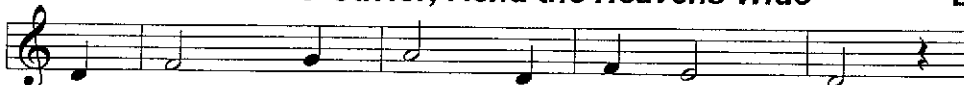
WELCOME

♩ [Means please stand; ♪ Means please be seated]

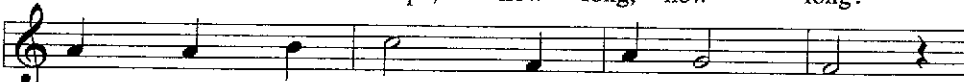
♩ OPENING HYMN

O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

LSB 355



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;
2 O Fa - ther, light from heav - en send;
3 O earth, in flow'r - ing bud be seen;
4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?



Come down, come down with might - y stride;
As morn - ing dew, O Son, de - scend.
Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.
When will You come with com - fort strong?

(continued)

Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;
 Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring:
 Bring forth, O earth, a blos - som rare,
 O come, O come, Your throne fore - go;

Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
 To Ja - cob's line rain down the King.
 Our Sav - ior, sprung from mead - ow fair.
 Con - sole us in our vale of woe.

5. **O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,
 When will our hearts behold Your dawn?
 O Sun, arise; without Your light
 We grope in gloom and dark of night.**
6. **Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
 O come, lead us with mighty hand
 From exile to our promised land.**
7. **There shall we all our praises bring
 And sing to You, our Savior King;
 There shall we laud You and adore
 Forever and forevermore.**

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INVOCATION

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
C **Amen.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

1 John 1:8; John 3:16; Matthew 5:16

- P** *As we begin a new Church Year, let us put behind us everything in the past that would disqualify us from a new life, and remembering our Baptism, we boldly petition our Savior Jesus Christ, seeking for our entry into His presence and His plan and future for us, saying, 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** *What are those threatening perils? I now ask you before God, who searches the heart, do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment?*
- C** **I do confess.**
- P** *So you should confess as Holy Scripture says, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." Do you also repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed?*
- C** **I do repent.**

- P** *So you should repent as did King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others. Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?*
- C** **I do believe.**
- P** *So you should believe as Holy Scripture declares, "God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." Do you promise that with the aid of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life?*
- C** **I do promise.**
- P** *So you should promise for Christ the Lord says, "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?*
- C** **I do believe.**
- P** *As you believe, even so may it be to you. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and 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.*
- C** **Amen.**
- P** *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. Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalm 25:1–3; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b

- P** *Behold, your king is coming to you;*
- C** **righteous and having salvation.**
- P** *To you, O LORD,*
- C** **I lift up my soul.**
- P** *O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame;*
- C** **let not my enemies exult over me.**
- P** *Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;*
- C** **they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

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;*
- C** **righteous and having salvation.**

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

- 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 LESSON

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

Isaiah 64:1-9

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE LESSON

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Psalm 24:7

All: 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

Mark 13:24-37

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.*

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

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

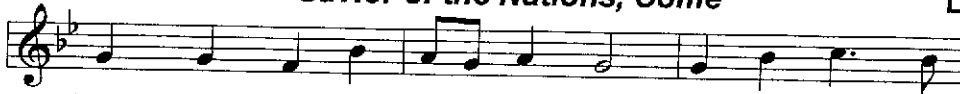
P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

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

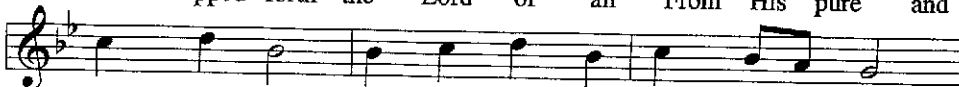
HYMN OF THE DAY

Savior of the Nations, Come

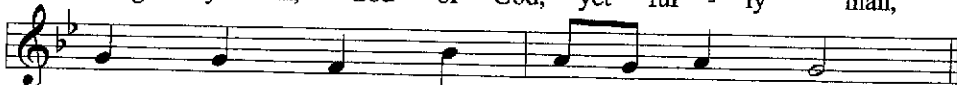
LSB 332



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

(continued)

5. God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6. For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7. From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

♫8. Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our King,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity. Amen.

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SERMON

"WE ARE ALL YOUR PEOPLE"

Isaiah 64:1-9

- I. Advent is a season for waiting. We wait for Christmas. We wait for Jesus' return. This year, we wait for an end to the pandemic.
- II. As we wait, Isaiah reminds us that "we are all [God's] people...the work of [His] hand."

♫ APOSTLE'S CREED

C 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 there 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, our Father, we give You thanks that You bring us once again into a new Church Year whereby we confess and proclaim Your great love for the world in the sending of Your only-begotten Son as the Child of the Virgin Mary, the Lamb proclaimed by John the Baptist, the teacher of the holy apostles, the sacrifice for the sins of the world on the cross, and the risen Savior of all, who will come again in glory on the Last Day. Lord, keep us in this confession and faith, and bless its proclamation throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *Supply Your whole Church on earth with faithful pastors and laborers who will continually feed and lead Your people, rightly proclaiming Your Word, administering Your Holy Sacraments, and caring for all in their charge. Guard and bless Your servant Matthew Harrison, our Synod President, and Roger Schlechte, our District President. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *That we may live in peace and safety, we ask You to continually bless those in the authority of government, the President and Congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of this state, and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws.*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *Comfort, O Lord, all who are in trouble, danger, or illness, [especially . . .]. Grant healing, peace, and courage for all bearing their crosses to Your praise and honor. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P As Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, came down to us at Christmas and now comes to us by Your Spirit in Your Word, we pray for His final coming to deliver us all in the great day of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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

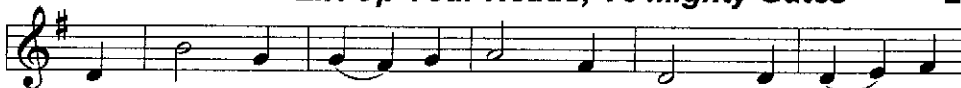
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you His peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There-fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There-fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.
 Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

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WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this morning:

Altar Guild..... Marilyn Kettner & Beth Tevah
Counter Carl Kurth
Elder on Duty Tony Williams
Organist Daniel Vanderhyde, University Lutheran Church
Sanitation CEO (Clean Every Object)..... Al Axford
Service Web Recorder..... Robert Showalter
Service Live Streaming..... Stuart Ruwet
Usher Phil Vandre
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