# Midweek Advent Worship

**Advent Lessons and Carols** 



# "Prepare, for Our Savior is Coming"

A Service of Hymns and Lessons

Presented at Calvary Lutheran Church

Calvary Lutheran Church 9807 Church Road + Dallas, TX + 75238 214-348-5567

December 13, 2017 7:00 p.m.

#### **OPENING HYMN**

#### 28 – Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



6 And, when you shall come again As a glorious king to reign, I with joy may see your face, Freely ransomed by your grace.

Please stand

#### THE EXHORTATION and PRAYER

M Dear people of God, in the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy child, Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, for the people in our country and in the city of Dallas, and especially for the brothers and sisters in our synod and in our own congregation.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us praise God for the faith of Mary, mother of our Lord, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one forevermore.

To sum up all these petitions, let us pray as Christ himself taught us.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

**M** The almighty God bless us with his grace, Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and may the King of angels bring us all to the fellowship of the citizens above.

#### C Amen.

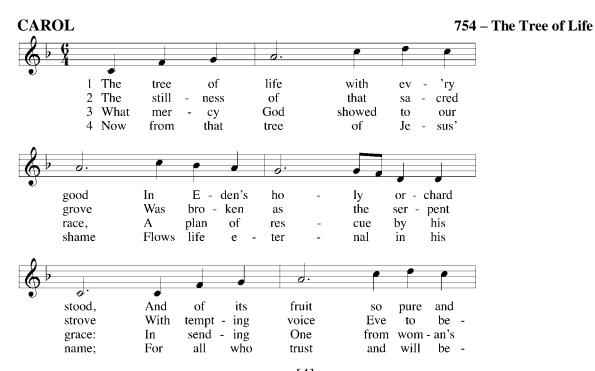
Be seated

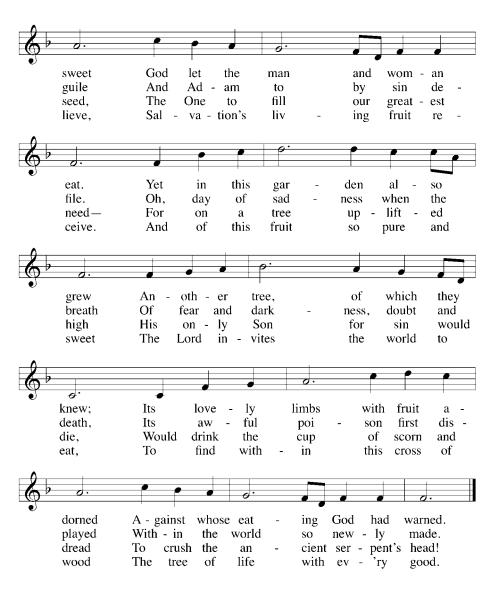
LESSON Genesis 3:1-24

Adam and Eve are banished from the garden, but not before they're given a promise

GENESIS 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you." <sup>17</sup>To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup>It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." <sup>20</sup>Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. <sup>21</sup>The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. <sup>22</sup>And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." <sup>23</sup>So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. <sup>24</sup>After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.





God's first promise to send a Savior, offered in the shadow of Eden, finds its fulfillment on the tree of Calvary, Jesus' cross.

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LESSON Isaiah 64:1-9

God is called upon to come among us and deliver us from our inquities.

ISAIAH 64:1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,

that the mountains would tremble before you!

<sup>2</sup> As when fire sets twigs ablaze

and causes water to boil.

come down to make your name known to your enemies

and cause the nations to quake before you!

<sup>3</sup> For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,

you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

<sup>4</sup> Since ancient times no one has heard,

no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,

who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

gladly do right, who remember your ways.

But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry.

How then can we be saved?

<sup>6</sup> All of us have become like one who is unclean,

and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;

we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

<sup>7</sup> No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away because of our sins.

We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Oh, look upon us, we pray, for we are all your people.

## **CAROL**

# 704 - Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> You come to the help of those who

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Yet, O LORD, you are our Father.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Do not be angry beyond measure, O LORD; do not remember our sins forever.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Tune: Helmsley (87 87 12 7) Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

MICAH 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,

though you are small among the clans of Judah,

out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel,

whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

<sup>4</sup> He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,

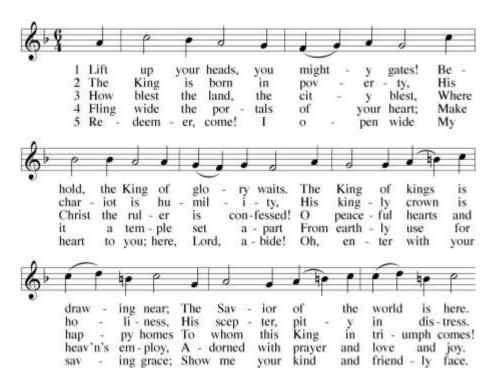
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they will live securely,

for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

### **CAROL**

# 3 – Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Therefore Israel will be abandoned



LESSON Zechariah 9:9-12

The King comes, gentle and riding on a colt, the foal of a donkey

ZECHARIAH 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!

Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation,

gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup> I will take away the chariots from Ephraim

and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.

His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.

<sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

<sup>12</sup> Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope;

even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.



LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10

God will prepare a way in the wilderness for his people

ISAIAH 35:1 The desert and the parched land will be glad;

the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, <sup>2</sup>it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;

"Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>say to those with fearful hearts,

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

The unclean will not journey on it;

it will be for those who walk in that Way;

wicked fools will not go about on it.

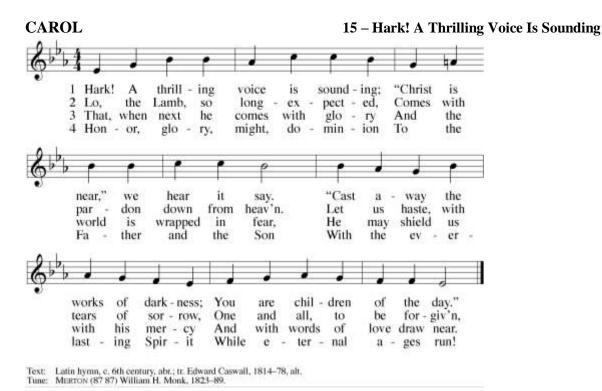
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there, <sup>10</sup> and the ransomed of the LORD will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;

everlasting joy will crown their heads.

Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it;

LESSON Psalm 118:17-29

Because the LORD has promised his help, we can cry out "LORD, save us"

PSALM 118:17 I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

From the house of the LORD we bless you.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar.

# **CAROL**

# 21 - Hosanna to the Coming Lord



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>The LORD has chastened me severely, but he has not given me over to death.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>This is the gate of the LORD through which the righteous may enter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>I will give you thanks, for you answered me; you have become my salvation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

LESSON Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel announces the birth of Jesus to Mary

LUKE 1:26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

<sup>38</sup> "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For nothing is impossible with God."



6 So praise with me the Holy One, Who comes in all humility. To our Redeemer, God's own Son, Be glory in eternity!

Text: Hermann Bonnus, c. 1504–48; tr. John T. Mueller, 1885–1967, alt. Tune: Angelus (LM) Georg Joseph, 17th century, adapt.

# FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS OFFERTORY

### **PRAYER**

M O God, you make us glad with the expectation of the coming of your one and only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Grant that we, who with joy receive him as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he will come to be our judge, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

### **BLESSING**

M Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good, render to no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you forever.

#### C Amen.





Tune: VENI, ÉMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.