

First Midweek Advent Worship

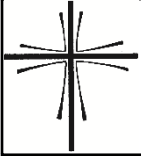


Christmas TREES

A MIDWEEK ADVENT SERIES

Calvary Lutheran Church
9807 Church Road
Dallas, Tx 75238 + 214-348-5567
www.calvarydallas.org

December 4, 2024 7:00 p.m.



Order of Service for FIRST MIDWEEK ADVENT

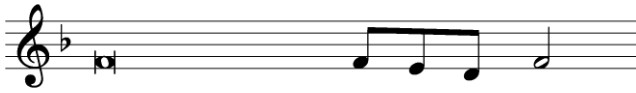
ORDER OF SERVICE

Evening Prayer (*Vespers*), CW page 215

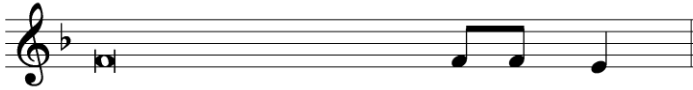
The Service of Light

OPENING SENTENCES

Stand



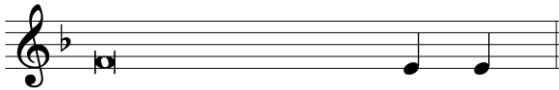
Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



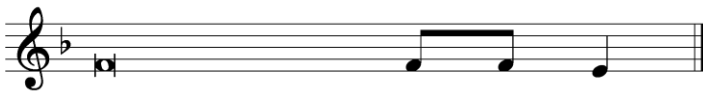
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



and the day is almost o - ver.



Be our light and scat - ter the darkness,



and hear our evening prayer and praise.

EVENING HYMN

795 (1,2) – The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Is Ended



1 The day you gave us, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness
2 We thank you that your Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls



falls at your re - quest; to you our morn - ing
on - ward in - to light, through all the world her



hymns as - cend - ed, your praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.
watch is keep - ing and nev - er rests by day or night.

Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Be Seated



LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

Psalm 141

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.
O LORD, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice
when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first staff begins with a double bar line. The second staff starts with a quarter rest. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

PSALM PRAYER

Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord, and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and forever in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS

Genesis 3:1-13

Wanting to be like God humankind rebelled against God, eating from the forbidden tree.

GENESIS 3:1 “Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

²The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

⁴“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. ⁵“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

⁶When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

¹¹And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

¹²The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.

¹⁵And 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.”

Galatians 3:7-13 (EHV)

Christ paid for our rebellion by dying on the tree of the cross.

GALATIANS 3:7 Understand, then, that those who believe are the children of Abraham. ⁸Foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, Scripture proclaimed the gospel in advance to Abraham, saying, “In you, all nations will be blessed.” ⁹So then, those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

¹⁰In fact, those who rely on the works of the law are under a curse. For it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the book of the law.” ¹¹Clearly no one is declared righteous before God by the law, because “The righteous will live by faith.” ¹²The law does not say “by faith.” Instead it says, “The one who does these things will live by them.”

¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. As it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.”

RESPONSE

Sung by the Choir

A Light Will Shine!

*The people who walk in the darkness,
they will see a great light!
The people who walk in the darkness,
on them a light will shine!
Those who live in the shadow of death will be filled with joy!
And unto them will a child be born, heaven's gift: a baby Boy.*

*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 every nation, Joy of every longing heart.*

*The people who walk in the darkness,
they will see a great light!
The people who walk in the darkness,
on them a light will shine!*

CATECHISM READING

The Lord's Prayer

The Address

Our Father in heaven.

What does this mean?

With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that he is our true Father and that we are his true children, so that we may pray to him as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.

+

The First Petition

Hallowed be your name.

What does this mean?

God's name is certainly holy by itself, but we pray in this petition that we too may keep it holy.

How is God's name kept holy?

God's name is kept holy when his Word is taught in its truth and purity, and we as children of God lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But whoever teaches and lives contrary to God's Word dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, dear Father in heaven!

+

The Second Petition
Your kingdom come.

What does this mean?

God's kingdom certainly comes by itself even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may also come to us.

How does God's kingdom come?

God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives his Holy Spirit, so that by his grace we believe his holy Word and lead a godly life now on earth and forever in heaven.



The Third Petition
Your will be done on earth as in heaven.

What does this mean?

God's good and gracious will certainly is done without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God's will done?

God's will is done when he breaks and defeats every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh, which try to prevent us from keeping God's name holy and letting his kingdom come. And God's will is done when he strengthens and keeps us firm in his Word and in the faith as long as we live. This is his good and gracious will.

HYMN

Comfort, Comfort All My People

Led by Worship Team; congregation to join when comfortable.

Introduction

*Speak to all Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell them that their sins I cover,
that their warfare now is over."*

Verse 1

*"Comfort, comfort all my people;
speak of peace," so says our God.
"Comfort those who sit in darkness,
groaning from their sorrows' load.
Speak to all Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell them that their sins I cover,
that their warfare now is over."*

Verse 2

*All their sins our God will pardon,
blotting out each dark misdeed;
all that well deserved his anger
he no more will see or heed.
They have suffered many' a day;
now their griefs have passed away.
God will change their aching sadness
into ever-springing gladness.*

Verse 3

*John the Baptist's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
calling people to repentance
for the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him
and the hills bow down to greet him.*

Verse 4

*Straighten out the crooked highway;
make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
ready for his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now o'er earth is spread abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that his word is never broken.*

ADVENT MEDITATION

Genesis 3:1-15

The Tree of Rebellion

ANNOUNCEMENTS and MUSICAL OFFERING

We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.

Offerings can be given in any of these ways:

- Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary
- On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>
- Scan the QR code to the right...



Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the card in the pew and placing it in the offering plate as you leave. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.

Stand

THE 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.

Be seated

ANTHEM

Sung by the Calvary Choir

The King Shall Come

*The King shall come when morning dawn and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.*

*Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.*

*The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past;
O haste the rising of the morn', the day that e'er shall last;
and let the endless bliss begin by weary saints foretold,
when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled.*

*Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ victorious rose
and left the lonesome place of death despite the rage of foes.
Oh, brighter than that glorious morn shall dawn upon our race
the day when Christ in splendor comes, and we shall see his face.*

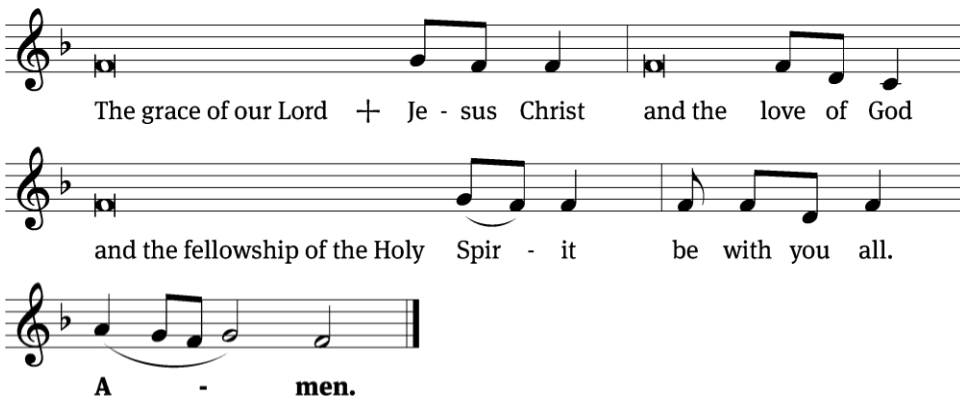
*Come quickly come. Come quickly King of kings.
Come quickly come. Come quickly King of kings.*

*The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings,
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly, King of kings.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel! Come quickly, King of kings!
Rejoice! Oh Israel! Come quickly, King of kings!*

PRAYER

Abide with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over. Abide with us and with your whole Church. Abide with us in the evening of the day, in the evening of life, in the evening of the world. Abide with us in your grace and goodness, in your holy Word and sacrament, in your comfort and blessing. Abide with us when we are overcome by the night of sorrow and fear, by the night of doubt and affliction, by the night of bitter death. Abide with us and with all your people in time and in eternity. **Amen.**

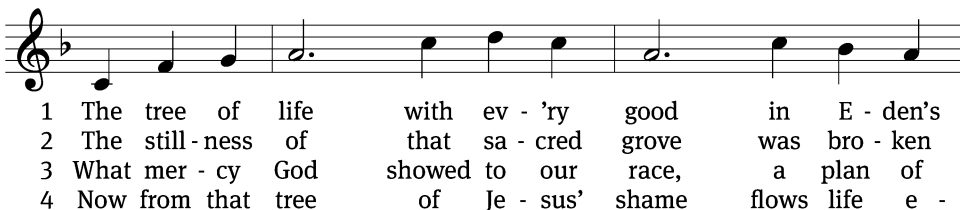
BLESSING



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.
A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

574 – The Tree of Life



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good in E - den's
2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove was bro - ken
3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, a plan of
4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, and of its fruit so pure and
 as the ser - pent strove with tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
 res - cue by his grace, in send - ing One from wom - an's
 ter - nal in his name; for all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this
 guile and Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of
 seed, the One to fill our great - est need— for on a
 lieve, sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew an - oth - er tree, of
 sad - ness when the breath of fear and dark - ness,
 tree up - lift - ed high his on - ly Son for
 fruit so pure and sweet the Lord in - vites the



which they knew; its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
 doubt and death, its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
 sin would die, would drink the cup of scorn and
 world to eat, to find with - in this cross of



dorned a - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played with - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread to crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood the tree of life with ev - 'ry good.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Evening Prayer from Christian Worship
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Hymn 795 – The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Is Ended

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-1893, abr., alt.
Music: Clement C. Scholefield, 1839-1904
Scripture references: Ps 113:2,3; Mt 25:1-13; Ro 13:11, 12; Eph 6:18; Ps 145:13
Text and music: public domain

A Light Will Shine!

Words by Lloyd Larson and Charles Wesley, 1744
Music by Lloyd Larson, incorporating HOLY MANNA from Columbian Harmony, 1825, attr. William Moore
Scripture references: Is 9:2, 6a
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Comfort, Comfort all my People

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611-84
Tune: Koiné
Arr: Koiné © 2008 Judas On Straight Street Publications

The King Shall Come

Text: “The King Shall Come”, John Brownlie, 1859-1925, alt. (PD).
Tune: CONSOLATION, from Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813 (PD).
Music: Newly composed by Robert A. Hobby.
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Hymn 574 - The Tree of Life

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955
Tune: Bruce W. Becker, b. 1952
Scripture references: Ge 3:1-15; Rev 22:1-3; Jn 3:14-16; Eph 2:4-9
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