

# Midweek Advent Worship



## “Advent Peace”

Calvary Lutheran Church  
9807 Church Road + Dallas, TX + 75238  
214-348-5567  
[www.calvarydallas.org](http://www.calvarydallas.org)

December 9, 2020 7:00 p.m.



## Order of Service for **SECOND MIDWEEK ADVENT**

### ***Service of Prayer and Preaching***

*Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book. © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Hymns and worship songs reprinted under OneLicense.net A-714955*

### **Opening Anthem**

**Psalm 72**

*Text: Hal Hopson and James Montgomery; Tune setting: Hal Hopson, Morning Star Music*

*The choir will sing the first refrain and the verses.  
The congregation is invited to join in the refrain after each verse.*

#### ***Refrain***

**Come, Lord, come soon, so that wars may cease.  
Come, Lord, come soon; bring joy and peace.**

*All hail to God's anointed, Great David's greater Son!  
All hail, in time appointed, Your reign on earth begun!  
You come to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression and rule from sea to sea.*

#### **Refrain**

*You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in your path to birth:  
Before you on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go,  
And righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.*

#### **Refrain**

Stand

## Opening Responses

This is the day which the Lord has made  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it**

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

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

Prepare the way of the Lord.  
**Make His paths straight.**

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

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

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.**

*Sit*

## Anthem

## Comfort, Comfort all My People

*Text: public domain; Tune: Koiné, Judas on Straight Street Publications*

*The congregation is invited to sing along with the small group.*



Com - fort com - fort all my peo - ple; speak of peace, so says our God.  
All their sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each dark mis - deed;  
John the Bap - tist's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,  
Straight - en out the crook - ed high - way; make the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness groan - ing from their sor - rows' load. Speak to all Je -  
all that well de - serve his an - ger He no more will see or heed. They have suf - fered  
call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance for the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, read - y for his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them; tell them that their sins I cov - er,  
 man - y day; now their griefs have passed a - way. God will change their ach - ing sad - ness  
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way; let the val - leys rise to meet him  
 of the Lord! now o'er earth is spread a - broad, and all flesh shall see the to - ken  
  
 that their war - fare now is ov - ver.  
 in - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 and the hills bow down to greet him.  
 that his word is nev - er bro - ken.

## Readings from Holy Scripture

### First Lesson

### Psalm 4

*Follow King David's prescription for peace!*

PSALM 4:1 My righteous God, answer me when I call.

<sup>3</sup>Know this: The Lord has set apart  
his favored one for himself.

The Lord will hear when I call to him.

<sup>4</sup>You may be upset, but do not sin.

When you are on your beds,  
speak to your heart, but remain silent.

<sup>5</sup>Offer righteous sacrifices,  
and trust in the Lord.

<sup>6</sup>Many are saying, "Who can show us any good?"  
Shine the light of your face on us, O Lord.

<sup>7</sup>You have placed joy in my heart greater than the joy  
when grain and new wine are plentiful.

<sup>8</sup>In complete peace I will lie down, and I will sleep,  
for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

*After the reading:*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Lesson

Colossians 3:12-17

*Among a host of blessings, peace is Christ's gift that rules our hearts.*

COLOSSIANS 3:12 Therefore, as God's elect, holy and loved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint against anyone else. Forgive, just as Christ forgave you. <sup>14</sup>And, in addition to all these things, put on love, which ties things together in perfect unity. <sup>15</sup>Let the peace of Christ control your hearts, to which you were also called, in one body. And be thankful.

<sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*After the reading:*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Lesson

John 14:27-31

*On the night before his death Jesus filled the hearts of his disciples with the Good News of God's peace.*

JOHN 14:27 "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, and do not let it be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me tell you, 'I am going away and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.

<sup>29</sup>"I have told you now before it happens so that, when it does happen, you may believe. <sup>30</sup>I will not speak with you much longer, because the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me. <sup>31</sup>But I want the world to know that I love the Father and that I am doing exactly what the Father has instructed me.

*After the reading:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## Responsory

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.  
**This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.  
**This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

*Stand*

## A Reading from the Catechism

### The Second Article

*Redemption*

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

*What does this mean?*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

*Sit*

## Jesus' Peace is Out of this World

*Meditation Notes:*

### Hymn

27 – O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are



1 O Je - sus, Lamb of God, you are My com - fort  
 2 O Lord, my sin in - deed is great; I groan be -  
 3 Saint John the Bap - tist points to you And bids me  
 4 Help me to change my ways, O Lord, And glad - ly



and my guid - ing star; I come, a sin - ner,  
 neath the dread - ful weight. Be mer - ci - ful to  
 cast my sin on you, For you have left your  
 to o - bey your Word. While here I live, a -



trust - ing - ly And bring my man - y sins with me.  
 me, I pray; Take guilt and pun - ish - ment a - way.  
 throne on high To suf - fer for the world and die.  
 bide with me, Then take me home e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
 Tune: WEIMAR (LM) C. P. E. Bach, 1714–88.

Stand

## Prayer

In peace let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, for the proclamation of the Gospel, and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For this nation, our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For... [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]... let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For these and all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Collect for the Word

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. **Amen.**

Sit

## Anthem

### Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow

*Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; Tune: Heinrich Isaak, 1490*

*Now rest beneath night's shadow The woodland, field and meadow,  
The world in slumber lies; But thou, my heart, awake thee,  
To pray'r and song betake thee, Let praise to thy Creator rise.*

*Lord Jesus, who dost love me, O spread Thy wings above me,  
And shield me from alarm! Though Satan would devour me,  
Let angel guards sing o'er me: "This child of God shall meet no harm."*

## Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**



# Advent Peace

There are as many traditions surrounding Advent as there are homes in which it is celebrated.

In the Roman church, Advent was initially a season of repentance, similar in feel to our present day Lent. As Lent prepared people for the celebration of Easter, so Advent was viewed as a season of penitential preparation for the celebration of Christmas.

Farther west of Rome, the budding church in France approached Advent with greater zeal and joy. Anticipation rather than penitence marked their season of Advent.

Over the years, the church has struggled to merge these two varying traditions. One solution has been to maintain the stark readings concerning Jesus' second advent during the church's Sunday services, while reflecting greater joyful anticipation for the celebration of Jesus' first advent on Wednesday evening worship.



The Advent Wreath has been a welcome tradition that both keeps a solemn focus while also exuding joyful anticipation. Contrary to popular belief, it is not of ancient origin, but has a history less than 200 years! The traditions, meanings, and symbolism surrounding the Advent Wreath are not bound by a common thread of history. Some wreaths have as many as 24 candles, while others have only four. The candles themselves can be white, blue, violet, red or some combination thereof.

More recent traditions place a name on each candle. But even this tradition does not hold steady! Among some the candles are designated as: Prophet's Candle, Bethlehem's Candle, Shepherd's Candle, and Angel's Candle. Others refer to the candles as: Hope, Faith, Joy, and Peace. Still others understand the candles to symbolize: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

This year, Calvary will follow the last tradition. On each Wednesday during Advent and on Christmas Day, we will focus our attention, in succession, on the gifts of hope, peace, joy and love (with Jesus at the center). Not only will readings, meditations, and the Advent wreath emphasize these gifts, new banners will also help highlight these specific Advent themes.

Peace



# HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2020

## *“Jesus Is the Greatest Gift”*



|                |  |                  |
|----------------|--|------------------|
| November 28,29 | Advent 1   | Regular schedule |
| December 2     | Midweek Advent                                   | 7:00 p.m.        |
| December 5,6   | Advent 2   | Regular schedule |
| December 9     | Midweek Advent                                   | 7:00 p.m.        |
| December 12,13 | Advent 3   | Regular schedule |
| December 16    | Midweek Advent                                   | 7:00 p.m.        |
| December 19,20 | Advent 4   | Regular schedule |
| December 24    | Christmas Eve<br>Lessons and Carols              | 3:30 p.m.        |
|                | Christmas Eve<br>Lessons and Carols              | 7:00 p.m.        |
|                | Christmas Eve<br>Candlelight Compline            | 11:00 p.m.       |
| December 25    | Christmas Day Festival<br>with the Lord’s Supper | 9:30 a.m.        |
| December 26,27 | First Sunday after Christmas                     | Regular Schedule |
| December 31    | New Year’s Eve<br>with the Lord’s Supper         | 7:00 p.m.        |