

# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 3, 2017

## Worship Focus

**Prepare for the Coming Christ – Always Ready**



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# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

## Service of Word and Sacrament

Christian Worship, p. 26

Service of Word and Sacrament © Northwestern Publishing House 1993.

"Thank the Lord" Tune: Richard Hillert. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Augsburg Fortress

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## OPENING HYMN

472 - Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a -  
2 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de -  
3 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you  
4 But while watch - ing al - so pray To the Lord un -



wak - en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a -  
feat you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be -  
tri - fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's  
ceas - ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and



wares o'er - tak - en. For the foe, Well we know, Is a  
tray and cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less  
mer - cy sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in. All your  
faith in - creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.  
friends to charm you Who but seek to harm you.  
hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.  
nite to serve him And for - ev - er love him.

Text: Johann B. Freystein, 1671–1718, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: STRAF MICH NICHT (76 76 33 66) *Handert . . . geistlicher Arien*, Dresden, 1694, alt.

## INVOCATION

- Minister**            The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- Congregation**    **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

**M** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)

**M** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



**M** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



**M** For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



**M** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



**M** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

**Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding;  
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.  
“Cast away the works of darkness;  
You are children of the day.”**

**Honor, glory, might, dominion  
To the Father and the Son  
With the everlasting Spirit  
While eternal ages run! (15:1,4)**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M** Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## THE WORD

### **FIRST LESSON** Isaiah 63:16b, 17; 64:1-8

The prophet pleads for the Lord to come and deal with sin... the only way we can truly be ready for Christ's coming.

ISAIAH 63:16b You, O LORD, are our Father,  
our Redeemer from of old is your name.

<sup>17</sup> Why, O LORD, do you make us wander from your ways  
and harden our hearts so we do not revere you?  
Return for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes that are your inheritance.

<sup>64:1</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> You come to the help of those who 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.

<sup>8</sup> Yet, O LORD, you are our Father.  
We are the clay, you are the potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.

## SENIOR CHOIR

Psalm 24

*The choir will sing the 1<sup>st</sup> refrain and the verses. The congregation is invited to join in all following refrains.*

### Refrain



Sing, be - liev-ers! Give thanks for those whose joy is the Lord.

1. *The earth belongs to the Lord, and all that we enjoy.  
A strong foundation was laid, was laid within the seas.*

### Refrain

**Sing, believers. Give thanks for those whose joy is in the Lord.**

2. *O tell us, who shall ascend? Who shall go up to God's house?  
They are those who love the Lord, who make God's will their own.*

### Refrain

3. *O tell us, who are these saints, these saints who praise God's name?  
They are those whose hearts are clean, whose joy is in the Lord.*

### Refrain

4. *The Lord will bless the just, new life shall be restored.  
O come and seek the Lord; O praise God's holy name.*

### Refrain

## **SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

God has taken care of our every spiritual need while we wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed... we can be ready, always.

<sup>1</sup> CORINTHIANS 1:3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup> For in him you have been enriched in every way--in all your speaking and in all your knowledge-- <sup>6</sup> because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. <sup>7</sup> Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. <sup>8</sup> He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

## **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

**M** We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

**C** **We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.**

**M** We hear his call to watch.

**C** **We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

**M** Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

**C** **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

*One advent candle is lit.*

## **GOSPEL Mark 13:32-37**

Jesus encourages us to be on our guard, to be alert, and to keep watch at all times for the coming of Christ.

<sup>MARK 13:32</sup> “No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. <sup>34</sup> It’s like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

<sup>35</sup> “Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back--whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. <sup>36</sup> If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup> What I say to you, I say to everyone: ‘Watch!’ ”

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## HYMN OF THE DAY

2 - Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's  
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the  
 3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child Of the  
 4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came And as -  
 5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, Praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O  
 Spir - it of our God Was the Word of  
 vir - gin un - de - filed, Though by all the  
 cend - ed to the same, Cap - tive lead - ing  
 God the Son, our King, Praise to God the



heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.  
 God made flesh, Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
 world dis - owned, Yet to be in heav'n en - throned!  
 death and hell— High the song of tri - umph swell!  
 Spir - it be Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt.  
 Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

## **SERMON**

Isaiah 64:1-9

### **Our Anxious Advent Prayer: Come, Lord Jesus**

#### **CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED**

**C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

### **MUSICAL OFFERING**

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Let us pray for the Church and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

Lord, You have given us the stars as markers of days and seasons, and we thank You for bringing us to the beginning of a new Church Year. Keep us faithful as we move through its observances and celebrations. May we gather often to hear the proclamation of Your Son and receive the gifts You bestow upon us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We do not know the time the Son of Man will come, that knowledge belongs only to You, O Lord. Keep us wakeful, watchful and ever ready for His arrival, so that we along with all Your faithful people may be gathered from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, You are our Father, hide not Your face from us. Look with kindness especially upon \_\_\_\_\_ and all who cry out to You in time of need. According to Your will, give healing to the sick, comfort to those who mourn and perseverance to those who suffer for the sake of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, even as we await Your coming in glory, You come to us in the here and now in the bread and wine that is also the body and blood of Your Son. May all who approach Your table today receive the Sacrament worthily, so that with sins forgiven and faith strengthened Your people lack no gift as they await the revealing of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember with thankfulness all the faithful who have gone before us and are now with You. Preserve and sustain us until the end, so that we will all be presented guiltless before You in the day of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.



## THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES

**M** The Lord be with you.



**C:** And al - so with you.

**M** Lift up your hearts.



**C:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**M** Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (*Sanctus*)

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

**M** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - - men.

**O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)**

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us your peace. A - - men.

**DISTRIBUTION**

*The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord’s Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord’s Supper.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

32 - When Sinners See Their Lost Condition



1 When sin - ners see their lost con - di - tion And feel  
 2 When Je - sus en - ters meek and low - ly To fill  
 3 When Je - sus en - ters land and na - tion And chang -  
 4 When Je - sus comes— O bless - ed sto - ry— He works  
 5 Oh, may he soon to ev - 'ry na - tion Find en -



the press - ing load of sin And Je - sus comes on  
 the home with sweet - est peace, When hearts have felt his  
 es peo - ple with his love, When, yield - ing to his  
 a change in heart and life; God's king - dom comes with  
 trance where he is un - known, With life and light and



his blest mis - sion To heal the sin - sick  
 bless - ing ho - ly And found from sin com -  
 kind per - sua - sion, Our hearts his truth and  
 pow'r and glo - ry To young and old, to  
 free sal - va - tion, That Sa - tan's pow'r be



heart with - in, All grief must flee be - fore his  
 plete re - lease, Then calm and joy with - in shall  
 bless - ing prove, Then shall our life on earth be  
 man and wife, Through sac - ra - ment and liv - ing  
 o - ver - thrown, And heal - ing to all hearts may



grace, And joy di - vine will take its place.  
 reign, And hearts di - vid - ed love a - gain.  
 blest; The peace of God on us shall rest.  
 Word Faith, love, and hope are now con - ferred.  
 come In heath - en land and Chris - tian home!

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.  
 Tune: WER WEISS, WIE NAHE (98 98 88) Christian Möck, 1737–1818.

## THANKSGIVING

### THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise, Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

**M** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
 Live in harmony with one another.  
 Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



**CLOSING HYMN**

9 - Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes



1 Je - sus, your Church with long - ing eyes For your ex -  
 2 E'en now, when tem - pests round us fall And win - try  
 3 Come, gra - cious Lord, our hearts re - new, Our sins for -  
 4 Oh, come and reign o'er ev - 'ry land; Let Sa - tan  
 5 Teach us in watch - ful - ness and prayer To wait for



pect - ed com - ing waits, When will the prom - ised  
 clouds o'er - cast the sky, Your words with plea - sure  
 give, our foes sup - press, Our root - ed en - mi -  
 from his throne be hurled. Let na - tions bow to  
 your ap - point - ed hour, And fit us by your



light a - rise And glo - ry beam from heav - en's gates?  
 we re - call And know that our re - demp - tion's nigh -  
 ty sub - due, And crown your gos - pel with suc - cess.  
 your com - mand; Let grace re - vive a dy - ing world,  
 grace to share The tri - umphs of your con - qu'ring pow'r.

Text: William H. Bathurst, 1796-1877, abr., alt.  
 Tune: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT (LM) *Andächtige Haus-Kirche*, Nürnberg, 1676, alt.

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