

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 4, 2016

Worship Focus

**The Forerunner Prepares: Christ is coming
He is near—repent!**



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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

704 – Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



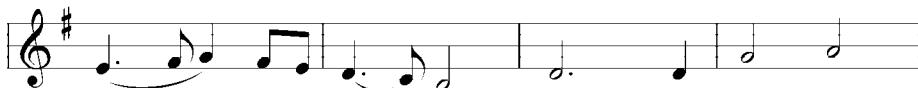
1 Lo, he comes with clouds de -
2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be -
3 Those dear to - kens of his
4 Yea, A - men, let all a -



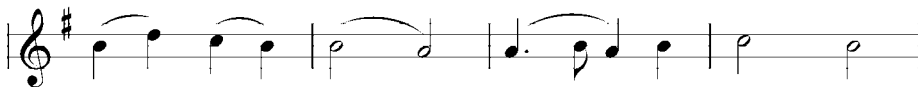
scend - ing, Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner
hold him Robed in glo - rious maj - es -
pas - sion Still his daz - zling bod - y
dore you High on your e - ter - nal



slain. Thou - sand, thou - sand
ty; Those who ri - di -
bears, Cause of end - less
throne. Ev - 'ry knee shall



saints at - tend - ing Swell the tri - umph
culed and sold him, Pierced and nailed him
ex - ul - ta - tion To his ran - somed
bow be - fore you; Come and take your



of his train. Al - le - lu - ia!
to the tree, Deep - ly wail - ing,
wor - ship - ers. With what won - der,
peo - ple home! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Deep - ly wail - ing, Deep - ly wail - ing,
 With what won - der, With what won - der,
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ re - veals his end - less reign.
 Shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 Gaze we on those glo - rious scars.
 You shall reign and you a - lone!

This glorious Advent hymn by Charles Wesley is set to its traditional English tune, HELMSLEY.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
 Tune: HELMSLEY (87 87 12 7) Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

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:



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10

“Repent” is the correct message from for the forerunner of the Messiah to announce because, as Isaiah predicted, the Messiah will come with spiritual blessings and restoration.

ISAIAH 11:1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

² The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him--
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of power,
the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD--
³ and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

⁷ The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The infant will play near the hole of the cobra,
and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest.

⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations
will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.



SECOND LESSON Romans 15:4-13

God renewed the hope of his people by raising up the root of Jesse. Hope in him reshapes our hearts and the resulting fruits of repentance show themselves in our renewed lives.

ROMANS 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

⁵ May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs ⁹ so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written:

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles;
I will sing hymns to your name.”

¹⁰ Again, it says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹ And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and sing praises to him, all you peoples.”

¹² And again, Isaiah says,

“The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the nations;
the Gentiles will hope in him.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDELS

M We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

C **We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.**

M We hear his call to repent.

C **We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.**

M Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

Two Advent candles are lit.

GOSPEL Matthew 3:1-12

John is the voice calling in the desert, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”

MATTHEW 3:1 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea ² and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” ³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’”

⁴ John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

16 - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift -
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad -



es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
uge and our great re - ward. With - out your grace we
us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on
vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings.
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.
Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

SERMON

Isaiah 11:1-10

Remember, You're Trusting in a Branch!

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

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C **We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

M As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C **Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."**

M You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C **Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

M Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C **Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C **Come, Lord Jesus! 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! 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*)

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff has a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts." The second staff has a common time signature (C) and a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "The whole earth is full of your glo - ry." The third staff has a common time signature (C) and a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "You are my God, and I will ex - alt you." The fourth staff has a common time signature (C) and a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -". The fifth staff has a common time signature (C) and a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts." The sixth staff has a common time signature (C) and a fermata over the first measure. The lyrics are: "The whole earth is full of your glo - ry." The piece ends with a double bar line.

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

47 – Behold, a Branch Is Growing



1 Be - hold, a Branch is grow - ing Of
 2 I - sa - iah had fore - told it In
 3 The shep - herds heard the sto - ry Pro -
 4 This flow'r, so small and ten - der, With
 5 O Sav - ior, Child of Mar - y, Who



love - liest form and grace, As proph - ets sang, fore -
 words of prom - ise sure, And Mar - y's arms en -
 claimed by an - gels bright, How Christ, the Lord of
 fra - grance fills the air; His bright - ness ends the
 felt our hu - man woes, O Sav - ior, King of



know - ing; It springs from Jes - se's race And
 fold it, A vir - gin meek and pure. Through
 glo - ry, Was born on earth this night. To
 dark - ness That kept the earth in fear. True
 glo - ry, Who con - quered all our foes, Bring



bears one lit - tle flow'r In midst of cold - est
 God's e - ter - nal will This child to her is
 Beth - le - hem they sped And in the man - ger
 God and yet true man, He came to save his
 us at last, we pray, To the bright courts of



win - ter, At deep - est mid - night hour.
 giv - en At mid - night calm and still,
 found him, As an - gel her - alds said.
 peo - ple From earth's dark night of sin.
 heav - en And to the end - less day.

Text: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, Köln, 1599, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: ES IST EIN ROS (76 76 676) *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, Köln, 1599.



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight,
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

 Come,
 O C O M E
 Emmanuel

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

12 – Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
 2 He comes the cap - tives to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 pris - on held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst; The i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring With your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, abr., alt.
 Tune: CHESTERFIELD (CM) Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.

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



A
shoot will come up from
the stump of Jesse, from
his roots a Branch will bear

Fruit...

Isaiah 11:1

