



First Sunday in Advent November 28, 2021 Blended 10:45

Days More Important Than Others

Prelude

As We Gather

Some days in our lives stand out as more memorable than others. The birth of a child, a wedding day, etc. are days of joy that become part of the stories of our lives. Jesus fills our days—good or bad, joyful or sorrowful—with His gracious presence from now until He returns on that great Last Day.

Welcome

+ PREPARATION +

Opening Song "Comfort, Comfort All My People" SSP 45

**Comfort comfort all My people
With the comfort of My Word
Speak it tender to My people
All your sins are taken away**

**Though your tears be rivers running
Though your tears be an ocean full
Though you cry with the hurt of living
Comfort comfort
Every valley shall be lifted
Every mountain shall be low
Every rough place will be smoother
Comfort comfort**

**Comfort comfort all My people
With the comfort of My Word
Speak it tender to My people
All your sins are taken away**

**Though your eyes see only darkness
Though your eyes can see no light
Though your eyes see pain and sorrow
Comfort comfort
Every night will have its morning
Every pain will have an end
Every burden will be lightened
Comfort comfort**

**Comfort comfort all My people
With the comfort of My Word
Speak it tender to My people
All your sins are taken away**

**Though we build strong walls for prisons
Though we feast while others starve
Though we fill this world with weapons
Comfort comfort
Every prisoner will be rescued
Every hungry mouth be filled
Every gun will rust forgotten
Comfort comfort**

**Comfort comfort all My people
With the comfort of My Word
Speak it tender to My people
All your sins are taken away**

**Though we fracture God's creation
Though we stand so far apart
Though we fail to love each other
Comfort comfort
Every wall will crack and crumble
Every stranger will be friend
Every one embrace another
Comfort comfort**

**Comfort comfort all My people
With the comfort of My Word
Speak it tender to My people
All your sins are taken away**

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

One Advent candle is lit.

A Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Kyrie for Advent (*Tune: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*)

Forgive us, Lord, for times when hope was lost,

And moments when we never thought to trust,

For times when we despair and forget

That You are where all joy and truth have met.

Forgive, forgive, forgive us all our sins

And help us hope and trust You without end.

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Confession and Absolution

A Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God's new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

A time of silence is observed.

P We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

C Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Song of Forgiveness SSP 32

I'm forgiven

Because You were forsaken

I'm accepted

You were condemned

I'm alive and well

Your Spirit is within me

Because You died

And rose again

Amazing love

How can it be

That You my King

Would die for me

Amazing love

I know it's true

It's my joy to honor You

In all I do I honor You

+ WORD +

Prayer of the Day

A Let us pray.

Ancient of Days, bring to all our days the hope and peace won for us by
Jesus on Good Friday and Easter Sunday,

C **that we may live by Your mercy until that day when Christ comes again
to judge the living and the dead;**

P through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Isaiah 35:4–7a

Jeremiah 33:14–16

*(The prophet Jeremiah foresees a day when God would come to bring righteousness
to His people.)*

¹⁴“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise
I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that
time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute
justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and
Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The
LORD is our righteousness.’”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle James 2:1–10, 14–18

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

(Paul reminds us that God can cause us to abound in love for one another as we await the coming of the Lord.)

⁹What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

I This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Luke 21:25–36

(The kingdom of God is near.)

A The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵[Jesus said:] "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is

already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Creed

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures**

**and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Children's Message

**Hymn for Today "Savior of the Nations, Come" LSB 332
Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.**

**God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.**

**For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.**

**Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.**

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Sermon

Prayer of the Church

- A** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- P** For all the nations of the world, their leaders and residents, that peace may reign and that the Church would be a faithful witness of Jesus' love and service in every place. Lord of all nations, grant us grace
- C** **to love all people in every place.**
- A** Sanctify our homes with Your presence and bless them with joy. Keep our children in the covenant of their Baptism, and enable their parents to bring them up in lives of faith and devotion. Be with each member of St. Paul, especially those we lift to You this day, David & Loretta Snider, Bill Stamm, Fred & Jacque Sterrett, William, Bambi, Harrison, Trinity Strain. Bless the children of our CLC Henry, Delilah, Karlee, Will along with their parents and our staff. Unite the members of all families in a spirit of affection and service

that they may show Your praise in our land and in all the world. Lord of all nations, grant us grace

C to love all people in every place.

P For all who are sick, injured, preparing for surgery, and recovering Yvonne Stamm, Deane Peters, Nettie Zehms, Donna & Brian Krueger, Rev. Albert Gesler, Cricket Winters, Barbara Murphy, Roger Hyde, Jean Edwards, Laura Vickers, Will Robertson, Jason Taylor, Erik Peterson, Kathy Gillis, Kathy & Curtis Carlson, Henry Helmke, Denny Emerson, Jeremy Richard, Barbara Kerber, Dan Benson, Tammy Tolbert, Tisha Robinson, Henry Bader, Benny Broadway, Liz Glass, Bruce Zehms, that God would grant them healing according to His good and gracious will. Lord of all nations, grant us grace,

C to love all people in every place.

A For all those who have abandoned the faith, Lord, that they would once again hear Your Word and receive Your good gifts. Lord of all nations, grant us grace

C to love all people in every place.

P For all those with disabilities, Lord, that we might treat them with more thoughtfulness and care, serving them as Your beloved people. Lord of all nations, grant us grace

C to love all people in every place.

A Lord, into Your hands we place all these things, knowing that You hear us and remain faithful. Teach us to pray...

**C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Offertory

Communion Instructions

For those who are intolerant to alcohol, grape juice is available in the center of each communion tray marked by purple cups. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Prepare our Hearts for Communion

1. Do I believe that I am sinful without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
2. Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
3. Do I believe that He is personally present with His Body and Blood?
4. Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

If this is what you believe, we invite you to come forward to share Communion with us. If this is not what you understand or believe you are welcome to come forward for a blessing; simply cross your arms for the Pastor to bless you.

+ SACRAMENT +

Prayer of Thanksgiving

A We are gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, who came as Prophet and Savior, who comes to us still also as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. By His body and blood given and shed for us, grant us nourishment of faith and forgiveness of sins in our fellowship around Your altar.

C **Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Song of Sacrifice "Lamb of God" SSP 4

**Lamb of God,
You take away
the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God
You take away
the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God
You take away
the sin of the world;
grant us peace**

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Come to the Table SSP 76

**Come to the table of mercy
Prepared with the wine and the bread
All who are hungry and thirsty
Come and your souls will be fed**

**Come at the Lord's invitation
Receive from His nail-scarred hand
Eat of the bread of salvation
Drink of the blood of the Lamb**

**Come to the table of mercy
Prepared with the wine and the bread
All who are hungry and thirsty
Come and your souls will be fed**

**Come at the Lord's invitation
Receive from His nail-scarred hand
Eat of the bread of salvation
Drink of the blood of the Lamb**

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Distribution Hymn "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table" LSB 618

**I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain**

**Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

**Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain**

**Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain**

**Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain**

**What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain**

Song of Thanksgiving "We Thank You Lord" SSP 5

We thank You Lord

We sing Your praise

We shout aloud alleluia.

Let all the world

seek Your face

and celebrate Your gifts of love.

For you fulfill your promises,

and lead us forth with songs of joy

and shouts of thanksgiving

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Alleluia, Alleluia.

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Post-Communion Thanksgiving

A Let us pray.

With grateful hearts we give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have strengthened us by Your Means of Grace. Grant that our faith in Jesus, Prophet and Savior, Lord of Light and hope in our trials, would increase and our courage would grow to serve You and others in Your name through all circumstances; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

A May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, . . . so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Song of Departure "Advent Hymn (Watching, Waiting)" SSP 77

**Heaven sent a child to save us light for all to see
Helpless baby mighty Savior holy mystery
Unto us a son is given born in Bethlehem
Lamb of God the Light of nations God in flesh became**

**Watching waiting longing for the day
When His people would glorify
The Name above all names**

**For the joy that lay before Him chose our agony
Jesus bore the wrath of Calv'ry
Washing sinners clean
Our Messiah Christ our brother word of God in flesh
Loosed the chains that held us captive
Broke the bonds of death**

**Watching, waiting, longing for the day
When His people would glorify
The Name above all names.**

**So we wait with expectation for His Advent here
Bride of Christ His word proclaimed
For all the world to hear
He will come in clouds descending
At the trumpet sound
In the light of Christ our Savior
Ev'ry knee will bow**

**Born in a manger dying on a tree
Rising Easter morning to set His people free
We're watching waiting longing for the day
When all nations will glorify
The Name above all names.**

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Postlude

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