

**WELCOME TO GETHSEMANE!**      **Sunday, November 29, 2020**

***First Sunday in Advent***

*TODAY'S FOCUS: Our Advent 2020 theme is "COME LORD JESUS!" Like the common table prayer, we prepare for the Lord's second coming (and our Christmas celebrations of Jesus' first coming). How? We pray for and live as Jesus is close to us through all circumstances. For this first Sunday in Advent our focus is "**COME, LORD JESUS, be our Guide.**"*

**+ PREPARATION +**

**LSB 918    *GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER***

- 1      Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
        Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
        Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
        Feed me till I want no more;  
        Feed me till I want no more.
  
- 2      Open now the crystal fountain  
        Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
        Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
        Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
        Be Thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

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### *INVOCATION*

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

**C** **Amen.**

### *CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION* 1 John 1:8; John 3:16; Matthew 5:16

**P** As we begin a new Church Year, let us put behind us everything in the past that would disqualify us from a new life, and remembering our Baptism, we boldly petition our Savior Jesus Christ, seeking for our entry into His presence and His plan and future for us, saying, stir up Your power, O Lord, and come,

**C** **that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance.**

**P** What are those threatening perils? I now ask you before God, who searches the heart, do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment?

**C** **I do confess.**

**P** So you should confess as Holy Scripture says, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

Do you also repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed?

**C** **I do repent.**

**P** So you should repent as did King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others.

Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus’ sake, will forgive you all your sins?

**C** **I do believe.**

**P** So you should believe as Holy Scripture declares, “God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Do you promise that with the aid of the Holy Spirit you will amend your sinful life?

**C I do promise.**

**P** So you should promise for Christ the Lord says, “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?

**C I do believe.**

**P** As you believe, even so may it be to you. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**P** Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come,

**C that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance. Amen.**

## *LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE*

- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,  
**C** **the light no darkness can overcome.**
- P** Let Your light scatter the darkness  
**C** **and illumine Your Church.**

## *WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE*

st. 1

- 1 We light the Advent candle  
And wait for Christ to come.  
With hope, we trust the promise  
That He will bring us home.  
Our hope is in our Savior  
Who wins for us God's favor.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

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## *SALUTATION*

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**

## *PRAYER OF THE DAY*

- P** Let us pray.  
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance;

for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

*OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Psalm 143

- <sup>1</sup> LORD, hear my prayer,  
listen to my cry for mercy;  
in your faithfulness and righteousness  
come to my relief.
- <sup>2</sup> Do not bring your servant into judgment,  
for no one living is righteous before you.
- <sup>3</sup> The enemy pursues me,  
he crushes me to the ground;  
he makes me dwell in the darkness  
like those long dead.
- <sup>4</sup> So my spirit grows faint within me;  
my heart within me is dismayed.
- <sup>5</sup> I remember the days of long ago;  
I meditate on all your works  
and consider what your hands have done.
- <sup>6</sup> I spread out my hands to you;  
I thirst for you like a parched land.<sup>[a]</sup>
- <sup>7</sup> Answer me quickly, LORD;  
my spirit fails.

Do not hide your face from me

or I will be like those who go down to the pit.

<sup>8</sup> Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,  
for I have put my trust in you.

Show me the way I should go,  
for to you I entrust my life.

<sup>9</sup> Rescue me from my enemies, LORD,  
for I hide myself in you.

<sup>10</sup> Teach me to do your will,  
for you are my God;  
may your good Spirit  
lead me on level ground.

<sup>11</sup> For your name's sake, LORD, preserve my life;  
in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble.

<sup>12</sup> In your unfailing love, silence my enemies;  
destroy all my foes,  
for I am your servant.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. <sup>6</sup> Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. <sup>7</sup> But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.

<sup>8</sup> Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, <sup>9</sup> he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. <sup>10</sup> And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

<sup>11</sup> Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. <sup>12</sup> When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. <sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and



you are to call him John. <sup>14</sup> He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, <sup>15</sup> for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. <sup>16</sup> He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup> And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*LSB 332 SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME* sts. 1, 3, 5, 7–8

1 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.

3 Here a maid was found with child,  
Yet remained a virgin mild.  
In her womb this truth was shown:  
God was there upon His throne.

5 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.

7 From the manger newborn light  
Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides;  
In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 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: COME LORD JESUS, BE OUR GUIDE***

### *NICENE CREED*

**© 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.**

## *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH*

### **+ SACRAMENT +**

#### Introduction To Communion

#### *LORD'S PRAYER*

**☩** 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.

#### *WORDS OF OUR LORD*

**☩** 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.”

*COMMUNION HYMN*

**LSB 336 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING**    sts. 1, 3–4

1    Lo! He comes with clouds descending,

    Once for ev’ry sinner slain;

Thousand thousand saints attending

    Swell the triumph of His train:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

    Christ the Lord returns to reign.

3    Those dear tokens of His passion

    Still His dazzling body bears,

Cause of endless exultation

    To His ransomed worshipers.

With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture

    Gaze we on those glorious scars!

4    Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,

    High on Thine eternal throne;

Savior, take the pow’r and glory,

    Claim the kingdom as Thine own.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

    Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

## BENEDICTION

**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.

## LSB 343 **PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY**

sts. 1, ref, 3–4

1 Prepare the royal highway;  
The King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
A level road appear!  
Then greet the King of Glory  
Foretold in sacred story: **Refrain**

**ref** **Hosanna to the Lord,  
For He fulfills God's Word!**

3 Then fling the gates wide open  
To greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
Its tribute too should bring.  
All lands, bow down before Him!  
All nations, now adore Him! **Refrain**

4 His is no earthly kingdom;  
It comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
And justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
For kindness so abounding: **Refrain**

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