

### 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 ask Jesus to be more than our guest at a meal; we declare Him our Master and Lord. circumstances. Our focus this fourth Sunday of Advent is "**COME, LORD JESUS, be our MASTER.**"

*LSB 395 O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT*

sts. 1, 4–5

1      O Morning Star, how fair and bright!  
        You shine with God's own truth and light,  
            Aglow with grace and mercy!  
        Of Jacob's race, King David's son,  
        Our Lord and master, You have won  
            Our hearts to serve You only!  
        Lowly, holy! Great and glorious,  
            All victorious, Rich in blessing!  
        Rule and might o'er all possessing!

4      Almighty Father, in Your Son  
        You loved us when not yet begun  
            Was this old earth's foundation!  
        Your Son has ransomed us in love  
        To live in Him here and above:  
            This is Your great salvation.  
            Alleluia! Christ the living,  
            To us giving, Life forever,  
        Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
    Our voices gladly blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
    His love is never ending!  
        Sing out! Ring out! Jubilation!  
    Exultation! Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005119

## + PREPARATION +

### /INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

### CONFESsION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** That our eyes and our ears may be open to receive the mystery of God's love, let us first empty ourselves of everything that has closed our hearts to God, confessing our sin and need of forgiveness and life.
- C** **At the Lord's own invitation and command, I confess all my sins to God, the very thoughts, words, and deeds with which I have offended Him and hurt my neighbor. I come now in the sincere hope and faith of the forgiveness of God made**

**known to the whole world in the mystery of His Son, Jesus Christ, who has sacrificed His own flesh and blood for me. Remove my sin and guilt for His sake, and restore a right spirit within me. Amen.**

**P** 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.**

*LSB 395 O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT* st. 6

6 What joy to know, when life is past,  
The Lord we love is first and last,

The end and the beginning!

He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place

Beyond all tears and sinning!

Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

Crown of gladness! We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

## *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*

sts. 1–4

- 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!
- 2 We light the Advent candle  
And thank the Lord for rest.  
With peace, we know our Jesus  
Has come to be our guest.  
This peace beyond all knowing  
Within our hearts is glowing.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

3 We light the Advent candle  
And sing with cheerful heart.  
With joy, we spread the message—  
A blessing to impart.  
Our joy is never ending;  
The Son to us is sending.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

4 We light the Advent candle  
And share the wondrous Word.  
With love, we tell of Jesus  
Till all around have heard.  
God's love is for each nation  
Throughout His whole creation.  
We wait with growing light  
Till God makes all things right!

Text: © 2013 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110005119

## 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 and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

+ WORD +

*EPISTLE*

Romans 6:11–14 NIV

<sup>11</sup> In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. <sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. <sup>13</sup> Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

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

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

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

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

*LSB 383 A GREAT AND MIGHTY WONDER*      sts. 1, ref, 3–4

- 1 A great and mighty wonder,  
    A full and holy cure:  
    The virgin bears the infant  
        With virgin honor pure! **Refrain**
- ref Proclaim the Savior's birth:**  
**"To God on high be glory**  
**And peace to all the earth!"**
- 3 While thus they sing your Monarch,  
    Those bright angelic bands,  
    Rejoice, O vales and mountains,  
        And oceans, clap your hands. **Refrain**
- 4 Since all He comes to ransom,  
    By all be He adored,  
    The infant born in Bethl'em,  
        The Savior and the Lord. **Refrain**

Text: Public domain

**SERMON: "COME, LORD JESUS, BE OUR MASTER!"**

## *APOSTLES' CREED*

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
  
And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the  
dead.  
  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\ddagger$  everlasting. Amen.

## *OUR PRAYERS*

### **+ SACRAMENT +**

#### *INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION*

#### *LORD'S PRAYER*

**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.**

### **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  $\ddagger$  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  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## + DISTRIBUTION HYMN +

LSB 528 *OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING*

sts. 1–2, 4, 7

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing

    My great Redeemer's praise,

    The glories of my God and King,

    The triumphs of His grace!

2 My gracious Master and my God,

    Assist me to proclaim,

    To spread through all the earth abroad,

    The honors of Thy name.

4 He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin;

    He sets the pris'ner free.

    His blood can make the foulest clean;

    His blood avails for me.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love

    Be now and ever giv'n

    By saints below and saints above,

    The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Public domain

## 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 379 O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL*

sts. 1, ref, 2–3

1    O come, all ye faithful,  
    Joyful and triumphant!  
    O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
    Come and behold Him  
    Born the king of angels: **Refrain**

**ref**    **O come, let us adore Him,**  
**O come, let us adore Him,**  
**O come, let us adore Him,**  
          **Christ the Lord!**

2    Highest, most holy,  
    Light of Light eternal,  
    Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
    Son of the Father  
    Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**

3    Sing, choirs of angels,  
    Sing in exultation,  
    Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
    Glory to God  
    In the highest: **Refrain**

Text: Public domain

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*ACKNOWLEDGMENTS*

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.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.