

December 3, 2025
Midweek Advent #1

The Prelude
Welcome & Announcements

Opening Songs

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”
LSB377 verses 1&4

On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King’s birth.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night,
All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men
Now and forevermore. Amen.”

Text: Public domain

The Invocation

The Advent Wreath

Tonight, we lit the candles of “Hope”, we recall the hope we have in Christ. As a follower of Christ, we await His return. We light this candle to remember that as He came to us humbly in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so He is coming again in power to deliver His people.

Service of the Light

- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**
P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**
P Let Your light scatter the darkness

C and illumine Your Church.

Prayer

Holy God of love, There is light in our lives because of the abundance of Your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, so real, that You became one of us. May we live within the power of this love. And may we share its light with a world where too many dwell in darkness. Amen.

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Celebration Hymnal 244 (to the tune LSB 700)

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev’ry nation,
Joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Public domain

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 7:13-17

And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 1:22-25

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

The Message

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB357 vs 1,2, &7

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!***

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord’rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.

Text: Public domain

The Advent Prayer

Dear Lord, Stir up Your power and come so that with Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and be saved by Your mighty deliverance. We pray

this through our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

The Sending and Blessing

- P** Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,
C **That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.**
P the Almighty and Merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you
C Amen.

The Closing Song

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

LSB388

**Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

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Postlude