



December 7th 2025
Second Sunday in Advent

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8 am and 11 am Worship Service

As We Gather

Months ago, people warned us that Christmas was coming. Did it help? From the days of John the Baptist, we have been warned that the day is approaching for Christ to come again. Are we ready? The coming One is not only the familiar Lord whom we know and confess as Savior but also the eternal judge before whom every knee will bow. We do not get our house in order because we are expecting guests but because we expect to be received in our Father's house and to be found faithful. This is why we confess our sin and are absolved of those sins. This is why we prepare by hearing His Word and receiving His body and blood. This is why we pray and do the works of the light before the night comes when no one can work. We are getting ready for the day we know is coming when we shall stand before the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

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.

Amen.

Kyrie

Service of the Word

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, grant to us the wisdom of Your Spirit and the blessing of faithful voices, that they may call us to prepare for the coming One and so that all who have heard Your Word and have been baptized into Christ may be preserved from evil, be counted worthy in Christ to be delivered into Your eternal kingdom, and be kept to the day of His coming at the end of all things; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and to the end of the ages.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

(A shoot shall come forth from the stump of Jesse.)

11 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

3 And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

4 but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

5 Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

(Paul points to Christ as the source of hope.)

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸ For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,
"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

¹⁰ And again it is said,
"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹ And again,
"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

¹² And again Isaiah says,
"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(John the Baptist preached in the wilderness.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

3 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

LSB 342

What hope! An Eden prophesied
Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side,
Led by a little child!

A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,
A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:
The fruit of God's design.

As banner of God's love unfurled,
Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world
Would rally to the cross.

Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,
Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—
Come, open heaven's door.

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Message

Vicar Caleb Gustafson

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna. hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
That cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the ☩ Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.

Hope of the World

LSB 690

Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great compassion;
Speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.
Save us, Thy people, from consuming passion,
Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.

Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,
Bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,
Still let Thy Spirit unto us be given
To heal earth's wounds and end our bitter strife.

Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
Showing to wand'ring souls the path of light,
Walk Thou beside us lest the tempting byways
Lure us away from Thee to endless night.

Hope of the world, who by Thy cross didst save us
From death and dark despair, from sin and guilt,
We render back the love Thy mercy gave us;
Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.

Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death victorious,
Who by this sign didst conquer grief and pain,
We would be faithful to Thy Gospel glorious.
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!

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Dismissal

Post-Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Grant us Your grace, O Lord God, Heavenly Father, that what we have here received in Word and Sacrament we may keep holy and without blemish in our hearts and lives. Keep the earthly preparations for a holiday from distracting us from being ready to receive Him on the day You have appointed, when all people shall stand before Him, our Savior and Judge; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing of God's People (Benediction)

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!

“Christ is near,” we hear it say.

“Cast away the works of darkness,
All you children of the day!”

Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

See, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all, to be forgiv’n;

So, when next He comes in glory
And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy
And with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, dominion
To the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit
While eternal ages run!

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**Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!**

Second Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Contemporary Service

December 7th, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Song of Praise & Lighting of Advent Wreath

Invocation

Old Testament Reading

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Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

(John the Baptist preached in the wilderness.)

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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.

Praise Song

Message

Vicar Caleb Gustafson

Confession and Absolution

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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.

Amen.

Holy Communion

Distribution Songs

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Blessing of God's People (Benediction)

Closing Song of Praise

Acknowledgments

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