

Advent 2020

*In a Year of Sensory Deprivation, Isolation and Loneliness;
We Meditate on How Our God Has Come into our World*

to Heal Our Separation.

Come, O Dayspring From On High!

The Sensations of Christmas:

Part 2: The Sights of Christmas

December 9, 2020 – 7:00 pm. Worship



Friends in Christ Lutheran Church

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† Call to Worship †

Hymn # 352 "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets,
 kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
 Christ, the sin - ner's help - and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.

- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head 6. Then when You will come again
 That, set free from doubt and dread, As the glorious king to reign,
 I may cling to You in faith, I with joy will see your face,
 Safely kept through life and death. Freely ransomed by Your grace.

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Invocation

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

Versicles

L O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

Psalm 96:1-3, 6-13

- P** ¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song;
C sing to the LORD, all the earth!
P ²Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
C tell of his salvation from day to day.
P ³Declare his glory among the nations,
C his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- P** ⁶Splendor and majesty are before him;
C strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
P ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
C ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
P ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
C bring an offering, and come into his courts!
P ⁹Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
C tremble before him, all the earth!
P ¹⁰Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!
C Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;
 he will judge the peoples with equity."

P ¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
C **let the sea roar, and all that fills it;**
 ¹²let the field exult, and everything in it!
P Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
C ¹³**before the LORD, for he comes,**
 for he comes to judge the earth.
P He will judge the world in righteousness,
C **and the peoples in his faithfulness.**



Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Advent: Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

Sit

† Service of the Word †

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 28:10-14

P The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, the twenty-eighth chapter.

¹⁰Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹²And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 3:1-6

P The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, the third chapter.

¹Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. ³And Moses said, “I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.” ⁴When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” ⁵Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Responsory

L Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 3:12-18

P The Epistle is from 2 Corinthians, the third chapter.

¹²Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, ¹³not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.

¹⁴But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. ¹⁶But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Responsory

L In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:19-23

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

Responsory

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

Hymn # 389:1,3,4,7 “Let All Together Praise Our God”

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G clef, common time, and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are written below the notes, corresponding to the numbered sections of the hymn.

1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly - cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

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Sermon “The Visions of Christmas: From Bethel to Bethlehem” Matthew 1:19-23

† Prayer †

Hymn # 933 "My Soul Rejoices"

1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
 2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing Sing the

great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
 great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He

fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
 shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion

bless-ing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might-y and
 halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the

ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
 wealth-y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the

sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
 to - ken All that was spo - ken To A-br'hams off - spring

Love and re - vere Him—O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
 God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

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Introduction to Collects

P O Lord, hear my prayer,

LSB 233 Psalm 102:1

C And let my cry come to You.

Collect

P Come, Lord Jesus, Dayspring from on High, open our eyes to the things of heaven, that where we walk through a world of darkness we may find in You our light of salvation, and as You have torn asunder the veil that separates earth and heaven, we may one day be carried to Your Father's House and see not only angel choirs, but the very face of You, our blessed Redeemer.

C Amen.

Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Collect for Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 233 Matthew 6:9–13

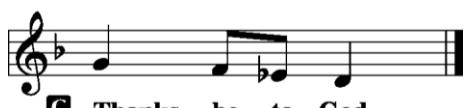
C Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

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

Benedicamus

LSB 234 Psalm 103:1

L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234 2 Corinthians 13:14

P The grace of our Lord  Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



Hymn # 393 “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”



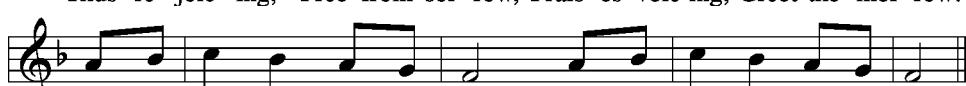
1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new



Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift-ly wing-ing, An - gels sing-ing, Bells are ring-ing, Tid - ings bring-ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic-ing, Greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Acknowledgments

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