

# The Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday – December 10, 2023 – 9:30 a.m. Worship

*(In-Person & Live -Streamed)*



Friends In Christ Lutheran Church

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# † Call to Worship †

## Greeting and Opening Prayer

### Opening Hymn #347 “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”



1 “Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace,” thus  
2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
3 Hark, the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er

saith our God; “Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -

’neath their sor - rows’ load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord

Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
Now o’er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall

sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver.”  
pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

*1 John 1:8–9 LSB 151*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** 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.

## Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 203

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

*Stand*

## ☩ Service of the Word ☩

### Responsive Reading: Psalm 85

- P** <sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land;  
**C** you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- P** <sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
**C** you covered all their sin.
- P** <sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath;  
**C** you turned from your hot anger.
- P** <sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
**C** and put away your indignation toward us!
- P** <sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever?  
**C** Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- P** <sup>6</sup>Will you not revive us again,  
**C** that your people may rejoice in you?
- P** <sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
**C** and grant us your salvation.
- P** <sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,  
**C** for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.
- P** <sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
**C** that glory may dwell in our land.
- P** <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
**C** righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- P** <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
**C** and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- P** <sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
**C** and our land will yield its increase.
- P** <sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him  
**C** and make his footsteps a way.

**ALL** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.  
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son,  
**C** that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds;  
**P** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
**C** who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**ALL** Amen.

Sit

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 40:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand

double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle: Colossians 2:8-13

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia and Verse



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel: Luke 1:67-80

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

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

<sup>67</sup>And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

<sup>68</sup>“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

for he has visited and redeemed his people

<sup>69</sup>and has raised up a horn of salvation for us

in the house of his servant David,

<sup>70</sup>as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

<sup>71</sup>that we should be saved from our enemies

and from the hand of all who hate us;

<sup>72</sup>to show the mercy promised to our fathers

and to remember his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup>the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us

<sup>74</sup>that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,

might serve him without fear,

<sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

<sup>77</sup>to give knowledge of salvation to his people

in the forgiveness of their sins,

<sup>78</sup>because of the tender mercy of our God,

whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high

<sup>79</sup>to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

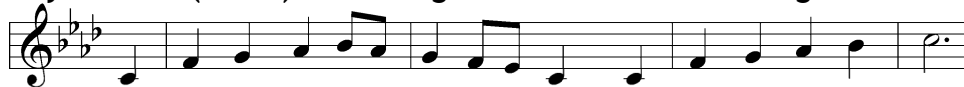
<sup>80</sup>And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

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

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

*Sit*

### Sermon Hymn #348 (v. 1-3) “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 “Pre - par - ing for the King to come, You will bring forth a son.”  
3 “It will! But ‘til that son is born, You will not speak a word.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
The an - gel told the priest who said, I’m old, it can’t be done.”  
Old age can-not stop God at His work to bring this world the LORD.”

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.  
Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth  
Verses 2 & 3: Phil Gruenbaum  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Sermon "A Lost-Voice-Rejoice"

*Luke 1:67-80*

*Stand*

### 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  $\text{✝}$  everlasting. Amen.

Offerings are brought to the LORD's altar

*Sit*

### Prayer of the Church

Responses:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

- P** Hear us Father for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who has forgiven our sins,  
healed our diseases, will one day raise us from the dead and has taught us to pray:

### 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.

*Stand*

### 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  $\text{✝}$  give you peace.



## Closing Hymn #350 “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

1 Come, Thou pre-cious Ran-som, come, On-ly hope for  
 2 En-ter now my wait-ing heart, Glo-rious King and  
 3 My ho-san-nas and my palms Gra-cious-ly re-  
 4 Hail! Ho-san-na, Da-vid's Son! Je-sus, hear our

sin-ful mor-tals! Come, O Sav-ior of the world!  
 Lord most ho-ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de-part,  
 ceive, I pray Thee; Ev-er-more, as best I can,  
 sup-pli-ca-tion! Let Thy king-dom, scep-ter, crown,

O-pen are to Thee all por-tals. Come, Thy beau-ty  
 Though I am but poor and low-ly. Ah, what rich-es  
 Sav-ior, I will hom-age pay Thee, And in faith I  
 Bring us bless-ing and sal-va-tion, That for-ev-er

let us see; Anx-ious-ly we wait for Thee.  
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di-vine!  
 will em-brace, Lord, Thy mer-it through Thy grace.  
 we may sing: Hail! Ho-san-na to our King.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### Next Week

December 17, 2023

## What Do We Do with Advent?

### The Third Sunday in Advent

#### The “Follow” Candle

*Like Mary and Joseph, we **Follow** in acceptance – as Mary said,  
 “Let it be to me according to Your word.”*



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