

SERVICE OF PRAYER & PREACHING

December 7 & 8, 2024

PRELUDE

OPENING VERSICLES

L This is the day which the Lord has made;

C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

ADVENT

L Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

C **Our God shall come; Her does not keep silence.**

L Prepare the way of the Lord.

C **Make His paths straight.**

L Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

C **Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.**

L From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

C **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.**

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

C **The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.

**And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord,"
call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that His name is exalted."**

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in Your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

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.

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

After each reading:

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT

- 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.**

- L He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

- 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.**

CATECHISM – TEN COMMANDMENTS

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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 ☩ everlasting. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *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.

HYMN #357, vv 1-30 Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 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!

2 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. *Refrain*

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

L Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

EVENING PRAYER (Saturday)

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER (Sunday)

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE

**C Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.
Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.
Death has no more dominion over Him.
Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.
Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.
Living, He lives to God.
Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BLESSING

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C Amen.

HYMN #344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

**1 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!**

**2 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.**

**3 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.**

**4 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.**

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

POSTLUDE