

# ✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Midweek in Advent 2

December 9, 2020

## Vespers

### JESUS, THE ROOT OF JESSE'S TREE

Advent is a time to reflect on Jesus' coming at Christmas. It is a time to look with hope toward His coming again at the restoration of all creation. It is a time to recognize Jesus' coming to us now in His Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion. In a world that often feels ungrounded and rootless, we find during Advent deep and abiding hope in Jesus as the root of our life and faith. As the roots of a tree nourish it, keep it grounded, and cause it to grow, so Jesus, the root of Jesse's tree, nourishes us, grounds us, and causes us to grow in faith. As we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, we pause midweek to be grounded and rooted in Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.

#### 342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied



1 What hope! An E - den proph-e - sied Where tame live with the wild;  
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da-vid's line,  
3 As ban - ner of God's love un-furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,  
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!  
A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.  
That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.  
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

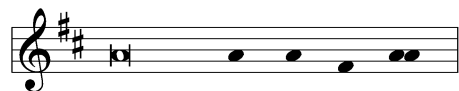
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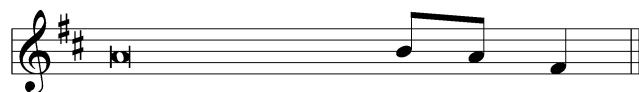
Stand

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

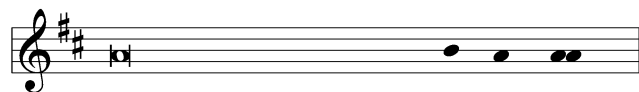
**C** Amen.



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** 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.  
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

## Psalmody

### PSALM

*Psalm 92; antiphon: v. 12*

- C** The righteous flourish like the | palm tree\*  
and grow like a cedar in | Lebanon.
- L** It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,\*  
to sing praises to Your name, | O Most High;
- C** to declare Your steadfast love in the | morning,\*  
and Your faithful- | ness by night,
- L** to the music of the lute | and the harp,\*  
to the melody | of the lyre.
- C** For You, O LORD, have made me glad | by Your work;\*  
at the works of Your hands I | sing for joy.
- L** How great are Your works, | O LORD!\*  
Your thoughts are | very deep!
- C** The stupid man cannot know;  
the fool cannot under- | stand this:\*  
that though the wicked sprout like grass  
and all evildoers flourish,  
they are doomed to destruction for- | ever;
- L** but You, | O LORD,\*  
are on high for- | ever.
- C** For behold, Your enemies, O LORD,  
or behold, Your enemies shall | perish;\*  
all evildoers shall be | scattered.
- L** But You have exalted my horn like that of the | wild ox;\*  
You have poured over me | fresh oil.
- C** My eyes have seen the downfall of my | enemies;\*  
my ears have heard the doom of my evil as- | sailants.
- L** The righteous flourish like the | palm tree\*  
and grow like a cedar in | Lebanon.
- C** They are planted in the house | of the LORD;\*  
they flourish in the courts | of our God.
- L** They still bear fruit in | old age;\*  
they are ever full of | sap and green,
- C** to declare that the LORD is | upright;\*  
He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness | in Him.  
The righteous flourish like the | palm tree\*  
and grow like a cedar in | Lebanon.

**C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Sit

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest  
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.  
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



*Refrain*  
Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. Refrain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Refrain

7 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. Refrain

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Readings

Reading

Genesis 22:1–18

**P** A reading from Genesis, the twenty-second chapter.

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted

up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Reading

*Hebrews 11:17–22*

**P** A reading from Hebrews, the eleventh chapter.

<sup>17</sup>By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, <sup>18</sup>of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.”

<sup>19</sup>He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. <sup>20</sup>By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. <sup>21</sup>By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. <sup>22</sup>By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Responsory (Advent)

*LSB 230*



**L** 1 Behold, the days  
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise  
up for David a righ-teous Branch.  
2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will  
dwell se - cure - ly.  
3 Glory be to the  
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.

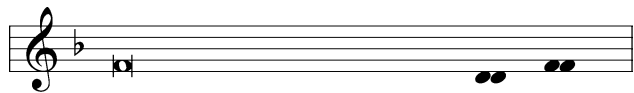


**C** This is the name  
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righ-teous-ness.

## Sermon

## Canticle

*Stand*



**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

### 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



bles - sing, 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'ham's 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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*Sit*

**Offering**

**Prayer**

*Stand*

**Kyrie**



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## 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.

## Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

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

**C** Amen.

## Collect

**P** God of hope, You graciously provided a Savior for us, who is now the root of our faith and life. Root us and ground us in Jesus, so that our lives may not be swayed by every temptation that comes. In the midst of a constantly wavering world, let our lives be signs of Your abiding and steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## 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.

## Benedicamus



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.

**C** A - - men.

## 338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1 Come, Thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!

From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;

Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

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## Announcements

**Advent Dinners and Services** are Wednesday, **Dec 9, & 16**. Light meal at 6:30pm. Vespers Service at 7pm.

**Adult Sunday School** is taking a break Genesis, and studying the Jesse Tree for Advent.

The **Ladies Bible Study** is studying Leviticus Wednesday at 10am.

**Church Council** will next meet, **Dec 13**, at 8am.

**Church Council elections** for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at-Large and Elders will be held at the **Dec 13 Voters' Assembly**. Please prayerfully consider participating in one of these offices.

**Electronic Giving** is now available through the church website: [HolyCrossCanton.com](http://HolyCrossCanton.com)

## Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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