

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE "Behold! Jesus!"



December 15, 2021



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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - Christ's Love, Our Calling.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1



A Devotion at Close of Day Compline¹

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last. **Amen.**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

To sing praise to your name, O Most High,

To herald your love in the morning, Your truth at the close of day.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Advent Peace Canon

CONFESSION OF SINS

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

We have sinned against you

In our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds,

And in all we have not done.

Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Let us rest in peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in newness of life. **Amen.**

¹ From *Christian Worship: Hymnal, p. 246-247* (adapted)

PSALM Psalm 85

M: You showed favor to your land, O LORD.

C: You restored Jacob.

M: You removed the guilt of your people.

C: You covered all their sin.

M: You put away all your wrath.

C: You turned from your burning anger.

M: Restore us, O God who saves us.

C: Put an end to your indignation with us.

M: Will you be angry with us forever?

C: Will you extend your anger through all generations?

M: Will you not turn and revive us, so that your people may rejoice in you?

C: Show us your mercy, O LORD, and give us your salvation.

M: I will hear what the true God, the LORD, will say.

C: He indeed speaks peace to his people, to his favored ones, but do not let them turn to foolish ways.

M: Surely his salvation is near for those who fear him,

C: so that glory may dwell in our land.

M: Mercy and truth meet together.

C: Righteousness and peace kiss each other.

M: Truth springs up from the earth,

C: and righteousness looks down from heaven.

M: The LORD will indeed give good things,

C: and our land will yield its harvest.

M: Righteousness walks in front of him.

C: It prepares the way for his footsteps.

PSALM PRAYER

M: God of love and faithfulness, you showed favor to your people by sending your one and only Son to be our Savior. Help us to trust in him as our gracious Redeemer and so enjoy the peace he came to bring, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN (CW 274)

My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord (p. 6)

274 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord



6 So praise with me the Holy One, Who comes in all humility. To our Redeemer, God's own Son, Be glory in eternity!

Text: Hermann Bonnus, c. 1504-48; tr. John T. Mueller, 1885-1967, alt.

Tune: ANGELUS (LM) Georg Joseph, 17th century, adapt.

ADVENT DEVOTION

Malachi 3:1 (NKJV)

"And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," says the LORD of hosts.

Behold! The Suddenness of His Advent!

ADVENT LORD'S PRAYER

- M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.
- C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.
- **M:** As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.
- C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."
- M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.
- C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.
- M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.
- C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON

In peace, Lord, you let your servant now depart according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for every people,
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

BLESSING

The almighty and merciful Lord – the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit – bless us and keep us.

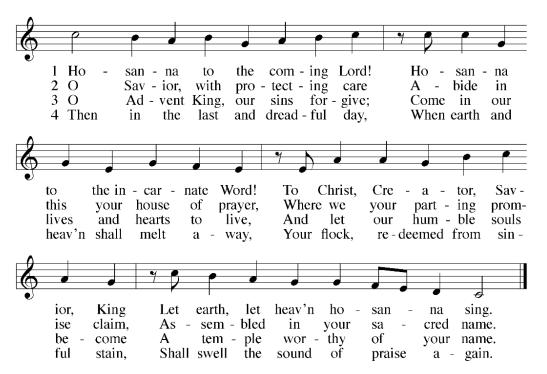
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN (CW 21)

Hosanna to the Coming Lord

21

Hosanna to the Coming Lord



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, abr., alt.

Tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LM) Schumann, Geistliche lieder auffs new gebessert, Leipzig, 1539.

Wednesday December 15: Advent Worship 6:30 pm Serving us this evening:

Pastor: Joel JenswoldPianist: Ava Wilson

Choir Directory: Elaine WilsonUshers: Dave Olson and Ben Olson

Altar Guild: Sally KaalbergA/V & Recording: Jen Olson



Poinsettias: Our altar guild is planning to use poinsettias this year throughout the altar to decorate for our Christmas services. If you would like to donate a poinsettia, simply purchase one (in any color) from your preferred store and bring it to church. The plants can be brought to church anytime during the month of December till December 19. (They can be taken home after the Christmas Day

worship, if you would like.) The altar guild will arrange and maintain the poinsettias.

If you prefer, you can donate funds and the altar guild will purchase the flowers for you. Donations need to be received in the church office by December 19. Simply use the small white labeled envelope found in the office. The donation should then be placed in the large collection envelope sitting on the desk.

Special Services

Children's Christmas Service 12/24, 4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Worship, 6:30 pm - Candlelight service

Christmas Day Worship, 9:00 am - with Holy Communion

New Year's Eve Worship (12/31), 4:00 pm