



LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE
“Behold! Jesus!”



December 8, 2021



LORD of LOVE

Lutheran Church

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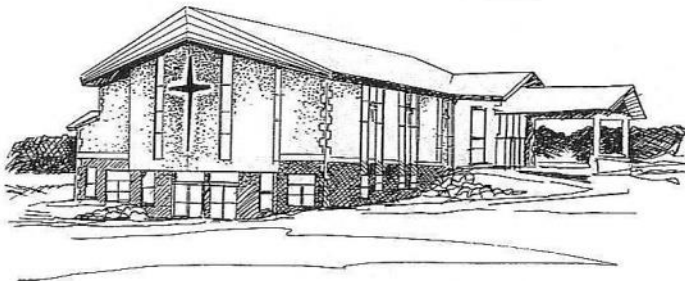
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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - ***Christ's Love, Our Calling.***

**“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

*Compline*¹

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.

HYMN (CW 10)

The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us (p. 4)

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)

**1 The Bridegroom soon will call us; Shake off your drowsy sleep!
Lest carelessness befall us, A watchful vigil keep!
May all our lamps be burning With oil enough and more
That we, with him returning, May find an open door!**

**2 There shall we see in glory Our dear Redeemer's face;
The long-awaited story Of heav'nly joy takes place:
The patriarchs shall meet us, The prophets' holy band;
Apostles, martyrs greet us In that celestial land.**

**3 There God shall from all evil Forever make us free,
From sin and from the devil, From all adversity,
From sickness, pain, and sadness, From troubles, cares, and fears,
And grant us heav'nly gladness And wipe away our tears.**

**4 In that fair home shall never Be silent music's voice;
With hearts and lips forever We shall in God rejoice,
While angel hosts are raising With saints from great to least
A mighty hymn for praising The giver of the feast.**

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570, abr.; tr. composite, 1989.

PSALM

Psalm 66

M: Shout praise to God, all the earth!
Make music to the glory of his name! Make his praise glorious!

C: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"
Because of your great power your enemies must cower before you.
All the earth bows down to you.
They make music to you. They make music to your name.

- M:** Come and see the works of God. How awesome his deeds for all people!
- C:** **He turned the sea into dry land. They crossed through the river on foot. Let us rejoice in him there.**
- M:** He rules by his power forever. His eyes watch the nations.
Do not let the rebellious rise up against him.
- C:** **Bless our God, you peoples. Let the sound of his praise be heard.**
- M:** He is the one who has preserved our lives.
- C:** **He did not let our feet slip.**
- M:** Indeed, you tested us, God. You refined us as silver is refined.
- C:** **You led us into a trap. You laid a burden on our backs. You let men ride over our heads. We went through fire and through water, but you brought us out to a well-watered place.**
- M:** I will come to your house with whole burnt offerings. I will fulfill my vows to you, which my lips uttered, which my mouth spoke during my trouble.
- C:** **I will offer fat animals to you as whole burnt offerings, along with the smoke from rams. I will offer cattle with goats.**
- M:** Come, listen, all you who fear God,
and let me tell what he has done to save my life.
- C:** **To him I cried out with my mouth. High praise was on my tongue.**
- M:** If I had contemplated evil in my heart, the Lord would not have listened,
- C:** **but God has surely listened. He has paid attention to the sound of my prayer.**
- M:** Blessed be God, who has not turned aside my prayer
- C:** **or turned aside his mercy from me!**

PSALM PRAYER

M: Almighty Father, by the waters of baptism you have clothed us in the robe of your Son's righteousness and have given us a new heart to hate sin. Preserve us in the saving faith and hear us as we lift our voices in songs of praise for your unfailing power and love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN (CW 22)

O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide; Come down, come
2 O Morn - ing Star, O ra - diant Dawn, When will we
3 Sin's dread - ful doom up - on us lies; Grim death looms
4 There shall we all our prais - es bring And sing to



down with might - y stride; Un - lock the gates, the doors break
sing your morn - ing song? Come, Son of God! With - out your
fierce be - fore our eyes. Oh, come, lead us with might - y
you, our Sav - ior - King; There shall we laud you and a -



down; Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
light We grope in dread and gloom of night.
hand From ex - ile to our prom - ised land.
dore For - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1591–1635, abr.; tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909–67, alt. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.
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Tune: O HEILAND, REISS DIE HIMMEL AUF (LM) *Rheinfelssisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch*,
Augsburg, 1666.

ADVENT DEVOTION

Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV)

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Behold! The Impossible Accomplished!

ADVENT PRAYER – THE GREAT O ANTIPHONS OF ADVENT

The minister shall pray each antiphon. The congregation shall respond by singing the appropriate stanza of the hymn "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel".

M: Let us pray.

O Emmanuel, our King and our Lord, the anointed of the nations and their Savior,
come and save us, O Lord our God.

C: ♪ Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating
all creation, mightily order all things; come and teach us the way of prudence.

C: ♪ Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high, who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice ! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush
and gave him the law on Sinai, come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.

C: ♪ Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times gave holy law, in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are
mute, to whom the nations will do homage, come quickly to deliver us.

C: ♪ Oh, come, O Rod of Jesse's stem. From every foe deliver them
That trust your mighty pow'r to save: Bring them in victory through the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close; you close and no one can open; come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

C: ♪ Oh, come, O 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting, come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

C: ♪ Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

M: O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone for uniting all people, come and save us all, whom you formed out of clay.

C: ♪ Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease, and be yourself the King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

LORD'S PRAYER

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 47)

Behold, a Branch Is Growing (vs. 1-2, 4-5)
(p. 10)

CLOSING HYMN (CW 47)

Behold, a Branch Is Growing (vs. 1-2, 4-5)



1 Be - hold, a Branch is grow - ing Of
 2 I - sa - iah had fore - told it In
 3 The shep - herds heard the sto - ry Pro -
 4 This flow'r, so small and ten - der, With
 5 O Sav - ior, Child of Mar - y, Who



love - liest form and grace, As proph - ets sang, fore -
 words of prom - ise sure, And Mar - y's arms en -
 claimed by an - gels bright, How Christ, the Lord of
 fra - grance fills the air; His bright - ness ends the
 felt our hu - man woes, O Sav - ior, King of



know - ing; It springs from Jes - se's race And
 fold it, A vir - gin meek and pure. Through
 glo - ry, Was born on earth this night. To
 dark - ness That kept the earth in fear. True
 glo - ry, Who con - quered all our foes, Bring



bears one lit - tle flow'r In midst of cold - est
 God's e - ter - nal will This child to her is
 Beth - le - hem they sped And in the man - ger
 God and yet true man, He came to save his
 us at last, we pray, To the bright courts of



win - ter, At deep - est mid - night hour.
 giv - en At mid - night calm and still.
 found him, As an - gel her - alds said.
 peo - ple From earth's dark night of sin.
 heav - en And to the end - less day.

Text: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, Köln, 1599, abr.; tr. composite.
 Tune: ES IST EIN ROS (76 76 676) *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, Köln, 1599.

Wednesday December 8: Advent Worship 6:30 pm

Serving us this evening:

- Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Pianist: Ava Wilson
- Usher: Bob Degnan
- Altar Guild: Sally Kaalberg
- A/V & Recording: Jen Olson

Join us for our final Advent service:

Wednesday December 15th at 6:30 pm



Christmas tree set-up: This Saturday December 11 at 10:15 am.
Volunteers are needed to help.

The Giving Tree: The Giving Tree gifts are due to church by this evening. They will be delivered tomorrow morning, sorted then distributed to the families. If you selected a tag, gifts should be unwrapped and placed under the tree in the fellowship area. Thank you for your generosity to families in our community. (*The DeForest Area Needs Network determines the families/children who will participate in the program.*)



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.

