

# **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)**

**Vespers**

**The Advent of Our Lord**

**December 7, 2022**





## **The Advent of Our Lord**

**December 7, 2022**

**7 PM**

### **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Missouri Synod)**

**9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.**

**Highlands Ranch, CO 80129**

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes and Sunday School.....9:25 a.m.

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Office.....303-683-1300

Fax..... 303-470-0165

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:  
Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***

### **Prayer for the Advent of Our Lord**

Lord God, we praise You that You comforted Your people with the promise of a Redeemer. We praise You that in the fullness of time You sent Your Son as that Redeemer. We praise You that You give promise that You will send Him to us again to judge the world in righteousness. Open our hearts to receive our Redeemer now as He comes to us in Word and Sacrament. Open our eyes of faith in an awareness of His presence in our lives by His grace. Make Advent a blessing to us as we welcome our King in faith and love. We lift our hearts to welcome Him anew. Fill us with gladness as He comes to us. Amen.



***We begin with a Christmas Hymn Sing of Advent and Christmas hymns. We will take requests of hymns 331-393 from the hymnal.***

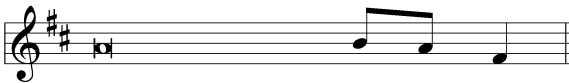


## **331 The Advent of Our King**

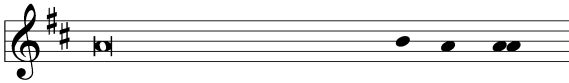
### **Advent Versicles**



**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

**May he judge your people with | righteousness,\*  
and your poor with | justice!**

**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the children of the | needy,\*  
and crush the op- | pressor!**

**May he be like rain that falls on the | mown grass,\*  
like showers that wa- | ter the earth!**

*Sit*



## Readings

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Reading: Romans 15:4–13**

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that

together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name."

And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## **Holy Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1–12**

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were

going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

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

## Responsory

*Jeremiah 23:5a, 6*



- 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.



*Sit*

## 342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

### Sermon

#### "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied"

Text: Isaiah 11:1-10

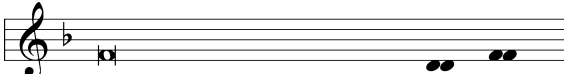


## Canticle

*Stand*

### Antiphon

*Psalm 141:2*



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



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



### 934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters  
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -  
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.  
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.  
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

*Sit*

### Offering

*(Please add your name to the red fellowship  
book and pass it to your fellow worshipers.)*





# Prayer

*Stand*

## Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*



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

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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

### Introduction to Collects

*Psalm 102:1*



**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.

# Additional Collects

## 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** A - men.

## Benedicamus

*Psalm 103:1*




**L** Let us bless the Lord.




**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction


*2 Corinthians 13:14*



**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.

## 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



***Soli Deo Gloria!***  
***(To God alone be the glory.)***

### **Acknowledgments**

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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