



✠ DAILY PRAYER ✠

Advent 2

10 - 16 December 2023

**Hope Lutheran Church
St. Louis, Missouri**

This guide is offered to assist families, individuals, and small groups in the simple forms of daily prayer included in Lutheran Service Book (pages 294-298). Use the form in LSB appropriate for the time of day and follow the weekly resources in this guide for hymns, readings, and prayers. Pray and confess out loud as much from this order as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate.

✠ ORDER FOR PRAYER

Morning	LSB, p. 295	Early Evening	LSB, p. 297
Noon	LSB, p. 296	Close of the Day	LSB, p. 298

✠ HYMN *LSB 336 – Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

✠ SCRIPTURE READING (from **Daily Lectionary**, LSB, pp. 299-304)

	Old Testament	New Testament
Sun.	Isaiah 26:20-27:13	1 John 4:1-21
Mon.	Isaiah 28:14-29	1 John 5:1-21
Tues.	Isaiah 29:1-14	Jude 1-25
Wed.	Isaiah 29:15-30:14	Revelation 1:1-20
Thu.	Isaiah 30:15-26	Revelation 2:1-29
Fri.	Isaiah 30:27-31:9	Revelation 3:1-22
Sat.	Isaiah 32:1-20	Revelation 4:1-11

✠ APOSTLES' CREED – *LSB*, inside back cover

✠ LORD'S PRAYER – *LSB*, inside back cover

✠ PRAYERS

Collect for Advent 2

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. Amen.

✠ FESTIVALS & COMMEMORATIONS

13 Dec. – Lucia, *Martyr*

✠ CONCLUDING PRAYERS – Order of Prayer in *LSB*



BOOK OF CONCORD READING

Advent 2

CHRIST'S SECOND ADVENT

We usually associate the season of Advent with our Lord's coming in the flesh at Bethlehem. Today, however, we also look forward to His Future Advent. This from the Augsburg Confession, Article 17:

[XVII. Concerning the Return of Christ to Judgment]

It is also taught that our Lord Jesus Christ will return on the Last Day to judge, to raise all the dead, to give eternal life and eternal joy to those who believe and are elect, but to condemn the ungodly and the devils to hell and eternal punishment.

Rejected, therefore, are the Anabaptists who teach that the devils and condemned human beings will not suffer eternal torture and torment.

Likewise rejected are some Jewish teachings, which have also appeared in the present, that before the resurrection of the dead saints and righteous people alone will possess a secular kingdom and will annihilate all the ungodly.

(Kolb, R. 2000. *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*.
Fortress Press: Minneapolis)

LOOKING FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK'S DIVINE SERVICE

Third Sunday in Advent

17 December 2023

This “mini-Bible study” is included for your use in personal devotions or with friends during the coming week as you prepare to hear God’s Word next Sunday. The questions provided after each of the Scripture texts are intended for your thought and reflection.

OLD TESTAMENT – Isaiah 40:1-11

1. In this passage Isaiah proclaims (about the year 700 B.C.) that God would lead His people home from exile in Babylon (about 537 B.C.). How does this historical fact help you understand the “comfort” in verse 1?
2. How does the history help you understand the “highway” and “valley” and “mountain” and “hill”?
3. Now reread the whole passage. How does it all (that is, all the picture language and details) apply to the Coming Christ?
4. How does your Lord Jesus Christ give you comfort through this Advent season?

PSALMODY – Psalm 85

1. Notice that this Psalm also talks about the return of the exiles.
2. Starting in verse 2, the psalmist tells us the real focus of God’s restoration of His people. What is it?
3. How does God restore you and return you from your exile in sin and death?

EPISTLE – 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

1. According to St. Paul, what is the one thing (main thing) that we are to look for in “stewards” of God’s mysteries (that is, pastors)?
2. Who judges St. Paul? Who judges pastors? Who judges all Christians?

HOLY GOSPEL – Matthew 11:2-11

1. What was John’s question to Jesus? What was Jesus’ answer? What did Jesus mean? See Luke 4:16-21.
2. According to Jesus, what was John the Baptist’s mission and purpose? See also Malachi 3:1 & John 1:29-34.
3. Jesus said that no one is greater than John. But then He said that “he who is least in the kingdom of heaven” is greater than John. Who is this person who is least in the kingdom? See Mark 10:45.