



**MESSIAH  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

*The Lutheran Church-  
Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd.  
Keller, TX 76248

**Sunday School &  
Adult Bible Class**  
9:30am

**Sunday Worship**  
8:00am, 10:45am

**CHURCH OFFICE**  
(817) 431-2345

**Rev. Thomas Chryst**  
Pastor

**Patrick Randolph**  
Vicar

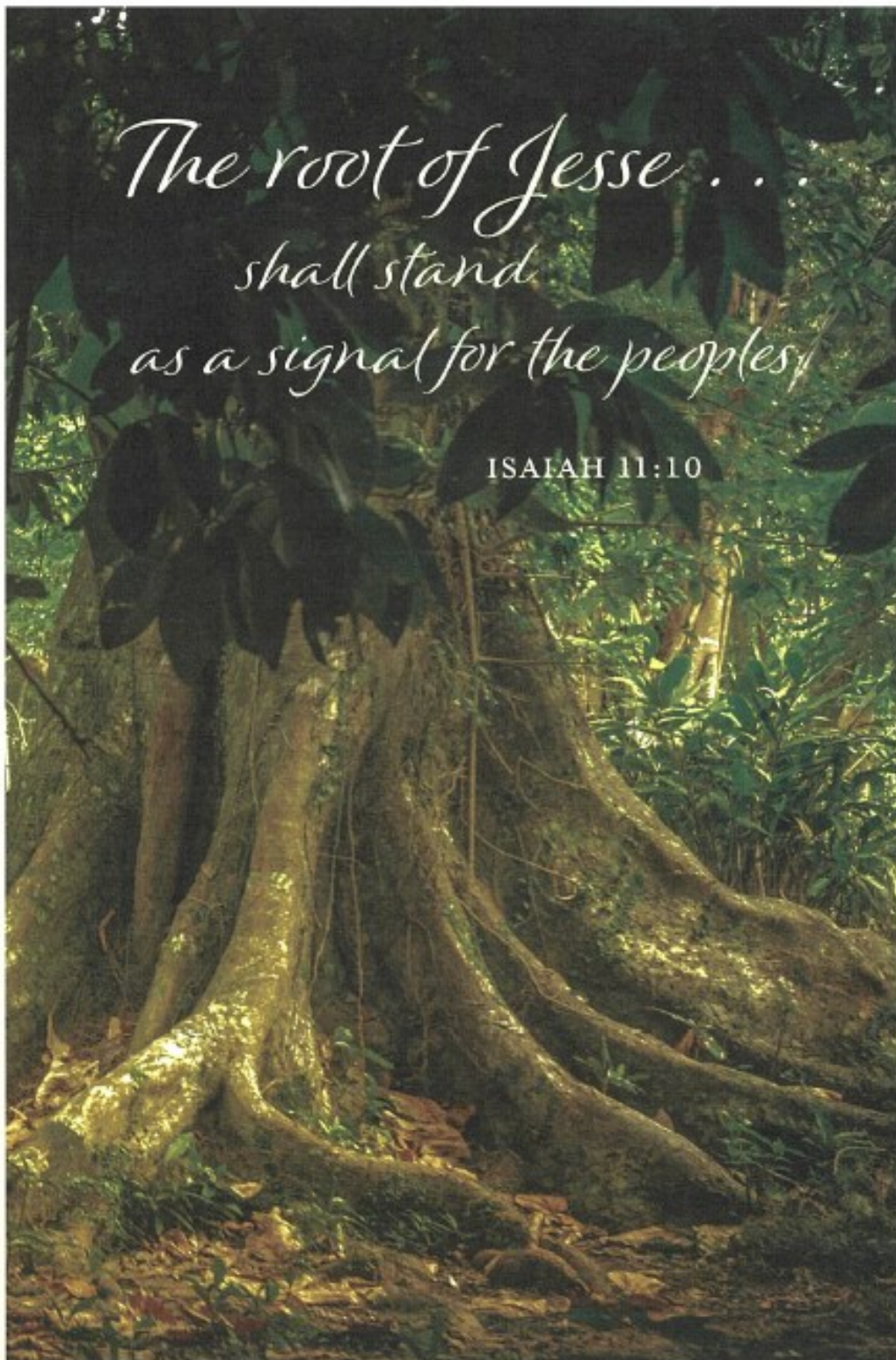
**CLASSICAL ACADEMY**  
(817) 431-5486

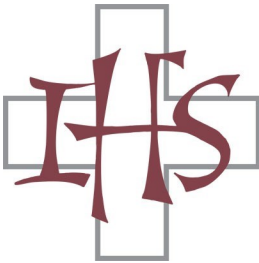
[www.messiahkeller.org](http://www.messiahkeller.org)

[www.mlcateexas.org](http://www.mlcateexas.org)

*The root of Jesse . . .  
shall stand  
as a signal for the peoples*

ISAIAH 11:10

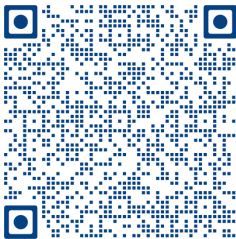


**FOR OUR VISITORS....**

**Welcome!** *When the service begins with the procession of the crucifix, you may rise and turn to face the entrance of the sanctuary at the start of the first hymn, turning back to face the altar as the cross processes past you. This gesture of respect is repeated in reverse during the singing of the final hymn.*

**We encourage you to follow along** with either the printed service, or with the hymnal. The page numbers for the hymnal are posted at the front of the sanctuary and on the next page. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance—he or she would be happy to help.

**We love children in our church!** But if your little one gets fussy you may use the cry room that is located at the north end of the hallway behind the sanctuary on your right. You are able to see and hear the worship service from there.



Follow the QR code to visit our **"Virtual Guestbook"** and tell us about yourself and your visit with us today. We also have a physical guestbook in the narthex.

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated in our services today. In this supper, our Lord Jesus Christ graciously feeds the humble sinner with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture clearly teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning that body and blood receives a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of a Christian concern for souls, we require a thorough instruction in the teachings of the Lutheran Church before participating in this Sacrament. Participation at the altar is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:17). Since unity at the altar presupposes unity in doctrine and confession (Acts 2:42), we kindly request that **only those who are in confessional fellowship** with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod participate. This includes active members in good standing of all sister Missouri-Synod congregations.

We recognize that **Closed Communion** is a sensitive issue for many and have a brochure to explain it more thoroughly. It is available in the narthex or from an usher. If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to speak with our pastor.

**We welcome** both children and adults who are not communicant members of the Lutheran Church to come to the altar during communion for a pastoral blessing. Please indicate the request for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.

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**This morning's liturgy, hymns and bulletin are available in larger print. Please see an usher for a copy.**

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# Divine Service—Setting One—LSB 151

## Hymns:

\*[407], 346, 344, \*[345], 347

## Hymns During Distribution:

342, 359

## Sermon Title:

*"Root of Jesse, Hope of the Gentiles"*

## Scripture:

*Matthew 3:1-12*

## Prelude:

Toccata in d minor – Gottlieb Muffat; PURE  
NOBIS ("On Jordan's Bank the Baptists' Cry")  
Settings by Michael D. Costello and Nicolas  
Lebègue

## Postlude:

Magnificat-Fuge quinti toni Nr.1  
– Johann Pachelbel

## \* Baptismal Hymn: [10:45am]

To Jordan Came the Christ,  
Our Lord ~ *LSB 407*

## \* Hymn of the Month:

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding ~ *LSB 345*



**We welcome** all who worship with us this morning in the name of our coming Savior, Jesus Christ. Advent is a season of waiting and hope and preparation. For Christ came...and is coming. Jesus, the shoot from the stump of Jesse, came as a lowly baby to fulfill God's law perfectly for us and bestow on us His righteousness as a gift. As New Testament believers, we await His second coming in glory. What do we do in the meantime? The same things that the

Old Testament believers did (or were supposed to do) while waiting for His first coming: repent of our sins, live in peace, encourage one another, stay in His Word, and watch—for the Kingdom is at hand! *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.*

## Serving in God's House Today

Organist:	Miguel Ruiz		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Altar Guild:	Angie Richmond Joan Burk Brenda Thowe Linnea Johnstone	Head Elder:	Steve Latham	Jim Ward
		Head Usher:	Chris Nietenhoefer	Tyson Bonty
		Acolytes:	Cory O'Dell	James Johnstone Evan Munoz
Counters:	Amy Hedman Carol Lemmon	Crucifer:	Colby Carter	William Johnstone

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by **Bob Knipp** in honor and loving memory of his dear friends Stan and Doris Williams and **Peter and Carol Hibbs** in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

**Introit:** *Psalm 105:3-8, a: Isaiah 40:3b*



*In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our  
God.*

Glory in his | holy name;\*

let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD  
rejoice!

**Seek the LORD | and his strength;\***

**seek his presence con- | tinually!**

Remember the wondrous works that | he has  
done,\*

his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,

**O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,\*  
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!**

He is the | LORD our God;\*

his judgments are in | all the earth.

He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand  
gener- | ations,

**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.**

*In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our  
God.*

## Collect of the Day

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.

## Gradual

Adapted from Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

(sung by the Choir)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



**Poinsettias Order Form:** On Christmas Eve the chancel area will be decorated with beautiful red poinsettias, donated by congregation members. We would like 60 plants for our poinsettia “trees” plus additional plants for the chancel area. **This year the cost is \$10.00 per plant.** Poinsettias are donated for the primary purpose of adorning the sanctuary, but donors are welcome to take their plants home following the 10:00am service on Christmas Day.

Please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, marked "Poinsettias." Place payment and this completed form in the **Perkins Mailbox** or in the basket on the mailbox counter **by December 21st**.

Name (printed as you would like in the bulletin (the Family, for example):

**Number of Plants:**

**Check Amount:** (\$10.00 ea)

## THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 12/04 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE  
 - 9:30AM - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE  
 - 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE  
 - 4:00PM - MLC VOLLEYBALL—MESSIAH'S SPORT COURT

MONDAY 12/05 - 8:30AM - DAILY CHAPEL [MONDAY-FRIDAY ~ ALL ARE WELCOME]

TUESDAY 12/06 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP  
 - 7:00PM - CONFIRMATION 2 & 3

WEDNESDAY 12/07 - 8:30AM - MLCA CHAPEL—MATINS SERVICE—ALL ARE WELCOME!  
 - 6:00PM - MIDWEEK ADVENT DINNER—FELLOWSHIP HALL  
 - 7:00PM - MIDWEEK ADVENT AND EVENING PRAYER

THURSDAY 12/08 - 6:00PM - PASTOR'S CLASS—RECEPTION ROOM

FRIDAY 12/09 - 6:30PM - MLCA CHRISTMAS PROGRAM [K-8TH]—ALL WELCOME!

SATURDAY 12/10 - 8:30AM - SWADDLING CLOTHES—MAC BUILDING BY APT. ONLY  
 - 2:30PM - SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL

### ADVENT MIDWEEK SERIES 2022 "Go Tell It On the Mountain"



**Mountains hold a special place** in Holy Scripture. They are often the backdrop for important events, yes, even, **"mountaintop moments"**. This Advent, we visit several Old Testament mountains as we consider the unfolding of God's plan of salvation in days of old. As we stand upon the mountains with Abraham, Moses, and Elijah, we get a view in the distance of the long-promised Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ. We'll begin our **Wednesday evenings** together with a meal at **6:00pm** in the Fellowship Hall followed by **The Office of Evening Prayer at 7:00** in the Sanctuary on Wednesday, November

#### Week 2 ~ December 7th:

Mount Nebo – Moses  
 Genesis 34:1-8  
 Hebrews 12:18-29 (A Kingdom that Cannot Be Shaken)  
 Messiah Youth—Hosting the Advent (Baked Potato Bar)

#### Week 3 ~ December 14th:

Mount Carmel – Elijah  
 1 Kings 18:16-40  
 Matthew 17:1-9 (The Transfiguration)  
 Altar Guild—Hosting the Advent meal (Soups, Bread & Desserts)

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS: December 4—December 17

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| 4: Is. 10:12-27a, 33-34<br>2 Peter 1:1-21<br>5: Is. 11:1-12:6<br>2 Peter 2:1-22<br>6: Is. 14:1-23<br>2 Peter 3:1-18<br>7: Is. 24:1-13<br>1 John 1:1 – 2:14 | 8: Is. 24:14 – 25:12<br><i>Obad. 1-21</i><br>1 John 2:15-29<br>9: Is. 26:1-19<br>1 John 3:1-24<br>10: Is. 26:20 – 27:13<br>1 John 4:1-21 | 11: Is. 28:14-29<br>1 John 5:1-21<br>2 <i>John 1-13</i><br>3 <i>John 1-15</i><br>12: Is. 29:1-14<br>Jude 1-25<br>13: Is. 29:15 – 30:14<br>Rev. 1:1-20 | 14: Is. 30:15-26<br>Rev. 2:1-19<br>15: Is. 30:27 – 31:9<br>Rev. 3:1-22<br>16: Is. 32:1-20<br>Rev. 4:1-11<br>17: Is. 33:1-24<br>Rev. 5:1-14 |
|--|--|---|--|

# Please keep in your prayers...

Cheri O'Neil's father, **Joe O'Neil** is in the ICU.

**We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer:** Jewel Cullison, Les Kasper, Rev. Ernie Bernet, Don Hortberg, Harold Karner, Larry Hyden, Janie Peter.

**...also those with other illnesses and trials:** Susan Holder, Melanie Wesley, Betty Baden, Janae McClaran, Jackie Morton, Belkis Gonzales, Susan Copen, Mildred McLaughlin, Ron and Barbara Busse, Jacob Brewer, Dr. Laverne Fitch, Bob Lemmon, Bruce Lage, Ada Towers.

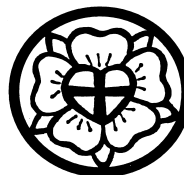
**...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly:** Ron Klingbeil, Ellois Fick, LaVina Goedecke, Janet Hazlehurst, Roger Isringhaus, Bettye Kohrs.

**.....all of our college students in and out of state:** Caleb Barnes, Olivia Bolton, Jared Brewer, James Buhler, Joseph Buhler, Erin Burk, Colby Carter, Chase Carter, Helena Chryst, Bailey Chryst, Seminarian David Christensen, Duran Crutchfield, Maranda Crutchfield, , Dorian Crutchfield, Max Hedman, Paul Hedman, David Lee, Cole O'Dell, Ryan O'Dell, Aidan Richmond, Seminarian Tanner Sawall, Ethan Schultz, Max Tonniges, Emily Torkelson

**We remember all those serving our country,** particularly our members and loved ones in the military: Hannah Pinkston, Hannah Kajer, Nicolas Towers, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, T. J. Greer, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Matthew Latham, Stephen Simmons, Brandon Towers, Carly Towers, Chaplain Paul Weber, Frank Wilde, Jesus Aranda.

## We also pray for...

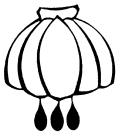
- Our educational ministry, especially our Academy and Sunday School.
- Fellow Messiah members, Pastor Chryst.
- Vicar Randolph and Deaconess Intern Grace Randolph and son William as they serve the members of Messiah and community.
- The voters, church council, and leaders of Messiah church and school as they deliberate on the work the Lord has given His people to do.
- Our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- The spread of the Gospel around our nation and world and the work of our missionaries and relief workers.
- Rev. Solomon Yadessa and his work with the Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas.
- Mr. Phillip Magness and his work in Africa, and Rev. Charles Ferry in Asia, through the LCMS.
- Our Braille ministry, that the Word will continue to reach blind or visually impaired people around the world, and for more volunteers to make it possible.
- The Swaddling Clothes ministry and those who come seeking assistance.
- The men in our seminaries, including Pastor McDonald, David Christensen, and Tanner Sawall as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.



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Pastor Chryst: [pastor.chryst@messiahkeller.org](mailto:pastor.chryst@messiahkeller.org)  
Vicar: [patrick.randolph@ctsfcw.edu](mailto:patrick.randolph@ctsfcw.edu)  
Deaconess Intern: [grace.randolph@ctsfcw.edu](mailto:grace.randolph@ctsfcw.edu)  
Director of Parish Music: [miguel.ruiz@messiahkeller.org](mailto:miguel.ruiz@messiahkeller.org)  
Church Office: [churchoffice@messiahkeller.org](mailto:churchoffice@messiahkeller.org)  
Church Office Administrator: [jaana.phillips@messiahkeller.org](mailto:jaana.phillips@messiahkeller.org)

Financial Manager: [jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org](mailto:jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org)  
Veronica Hobson: [financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org](mailto:financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org)  
School Board: [schoolboard@mlcatexas.org](mailto:schoolboard@mlcatexas.org)  
Board of Trustees: [trustees@messiahkeller.org](mailto:trustees@messiahkeller.org)  
MLCA Office: [schooloffice@mlcatexas.org](mailto:schooloffice@mlcatexas.org)  
MLCA Preschool: [schooloffice@mlcatexas.org](mailto:schooloffice@mlcatexas.org)



**Baptism**—This morning in the 10:45am service, we welcome into God's Kingdom through Holy Baptism, **Elena Kaori Ruiz**, daughter of Miguel and Ei Ruiz born on November 22nd.



**New Members:** At the 10:45am service, we welcome into our family new members: **The Phillips Family, Tom and Jaana** and their children, **Cooper, Abby and Chase** along with new member **Cindy Plank**. Please welcome them at the end of the second service.



**The Women's Christmas by Candlelight Event** will be held on **Monday, December 12th** at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is an evening of God's Word and song to celebrate the Christmas season. **Desserts and drinks** will be served. You may sign up as a **Hostess** to sponsor & decorate tables or as a **guest** at the sign up table in the narthex after both services today. All confirmed young ladies are also welcome to attend! Contact Joan Burk if you are able to sponsor a table at 817-797-3215 or [Burkjrj@att.net](mailto:Burkjrj@att.net).



**Confirmation is having** a Christmas Party **December 13th** at 7pm. Join us in the MAC building for **games and snacks**. Bring a fun mug filled with goodies to exchange (\$10 max). For questions contact Deaconess Randolph at

[grace.randolph@ctsfw.edu](mailto:grace.randolph@ctsfw.edu) or Torie Bonty at [tsbonty@gmail.com](mailto:tsbonty@gmail.com).



**The Sunday School Christmas Program** will be held on Sunday **December 18th** during the Sunday School hour. All children are invited to participate. Our first **rehearsal** will be on Saturday, **December 10th** at 2:30 pm. We will have **another rehearsal** on Sunday,

**December 11th** following the second service. Please try to attend at least one of these rehearsals. Contact Meredith Sifford for more information at [meredithrae@icloud.com](mailto:meredithrae@icloud.com).



**MESSIAH MUSIC UPDATES FROM OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR, MIGUEL RUIZ:** For the season of Advent, we will be using **Divine Service Setting One** for all four services.

*We will continue to use all the settings at various times, but for these four weeks, the same one will be repeated.*

*Perhaps you noticed a hymn labeled "Hymn of the Month" in last week's bulletin? We are returning to the **program of highlighting** an old or new hymn regularly throughout the year to become more familiar with and learn more about it! The hymn will mostly **change** with the **liturgical season**, instead of the monthly calendar, so we don't wind up with a Lent hymn in the Easter season, for example. **Look for more information** about our Advent hymn, 345 Hark a Thrilling Voice Is Sounding, soon!*

**Look for two signups coming soon:** 1. Anyone interested in sharing their musical ability as part of our Christmas Eve services – we will have a half hour or so of pre-service music leading up to each one, and we look forward to **hearing you sing or play an instrument!** 2. We will also include the singing of some Christmas carols and hymns during this time, since the service can only include a limited number. **Do you have a favorite Christmas song** that doesn't always make the main service? Be sure to submit it on the signup, and we will try to include it!



**Angel Tree 2022:** We have **15 Angel families left!** How can you sponsor a family? Choose a family, purchase a gift around \$25, wrap and label with an angel tag sticker and return back to Messiah under the tree **by December 13<sup>th</sup>**. **Angel Tree helps children** and their incarcerated parents/guardians bond until they can be reunited. For questions contact Deaconess Randolph at [grace.randolph@ctsfw.edu](mailto:grace.randolph@ctsfw.edu).

**The Texas Rally for Life** is coming up! This is a statewide Rally that is held at the Capital in Austin on January 28, 2023 from 1-4pm. More details to come!



#### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

**Last Sunday:** 8:00am: **91** 10:45: **80** (171 Total) **Sunday School:** 80  
**Weekly OFFERINGS:** **\$9,098.85** (Including online giving to Gen. Fund)

You may use this QR code for your convenience if you would like to give to Messiah. It will direct you to our Vanco System for electronic giving.



# About the Cover

Earlier in Isaiah, God's people were compared to a great tree that had been felled, leaving only the stump. However, just as large roots draw their sustenance and nutrients from the earth, this stump of Jesse was rooted in the promises of God's Word. Christ is that promise that grew forth from these roots in order to bear the fruit of salvation, making the cross into a life-giving tree.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

### Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

- <sup>1</sup> There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- <sup>2</sup> 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.
- <sup>3</sup> 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,
- <sup>4</sup> 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.
- <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
- <sup>6</sup> 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.
- <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
- <sup>9</sup> 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.
- <sup>10</sup> 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.

### Epistle: Romans 15:4-13

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup> 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, <sup>9</sup> 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."

<sup>10</sup> And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

<sup>11</sup> And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

<sup>12</sup> And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

<sup>13</sup> 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.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup> Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. <sup>3</sup> 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."

<sup>4</sup> Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup> 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? <sup>8</sup> Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> 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.

<sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> 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."