

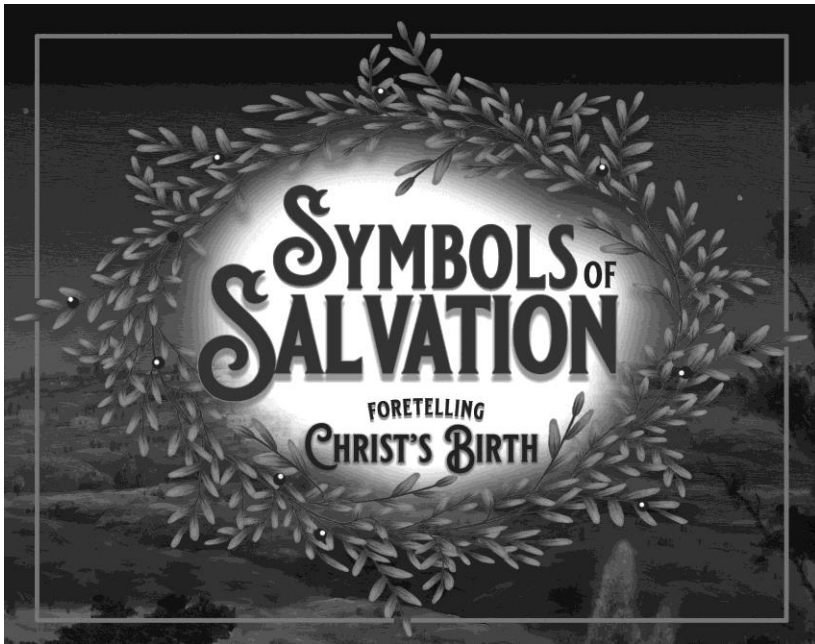
# **Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**December 1, 2021**

Midweek of Advent 1

Old Testament Christmas



**2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792**

**Church Phone 692-7027**

**Preschool Phone 698-5900**

**Church E-mail: [mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com](mailto:mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.mtpisgahlutheran.com](http://www.mtpisgahlutheran.com)**

**Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH**

**9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday**

# Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**December 1, 2021**

Midweek of Advent 1

## *Serving Today*

**Pastor Jonathan Christensen**  
**Lois Schweinler, Choir Director**

**Robert Hamrick, Organist**  
**Craig Escude, Cantor**

**Elders**  
**Lectors**

**Rudy Eidam**

**John Zagone**

**Ushers**

**Greeter**

**Nona Schmook**

## **Altar Guild**

## **Acknowledgments**

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**We are delighted to have you worship with us today.** May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. **To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at [mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com](mailto:mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com).**

***Rev. Jonathan Christensen - Pastor***

***[mplc.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:mplc.pastor@gmail.com)***

***Office: (828) 692-7027 ex.402***

***Cell: (920)530-8606***

# Order of Vespers

Prelude

Prepare the Royal Highway

Edwin T. Childs

*Stand*

Hymn

343 Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom-ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!  
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*

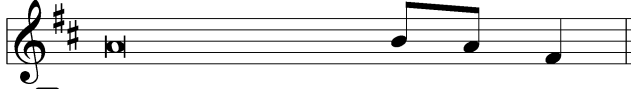


Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

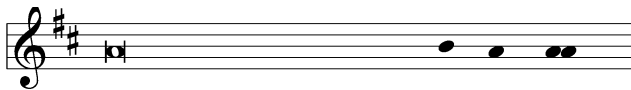
**L** This is a time of year when we cherish moments with family and friends by taking photographs. We look back on these images to remember what took place, to fill us with joy when family and friends are absent, and to remind us of their love. Tonight, we begin an Advent series on images through which God addresses His people, calls them to joy in His promises, and reminds us of His unfailing love and presence. These are living pictures of God's gracious acts to redeem His people. Tonight, we look at the burning bush and the Lord's address to Moses. This picture is even more meaningful because it was the pre-incarnate Christ who stood before Moses and spoke through the burning bush, foreshadowing the incarnation itself, which is the focus of Christmas.



**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

### Psalm

*Psalm 105:1–6, 23–26, 43–45; antiphon: v. 2Tone H*



Sing to Him, sing prais- | es to Him;\*

tell of all His | wondrous works!

**Oh give thanks to the Lord; call up- | on His name;\***

**make known His deeds among the | peoples!**

Sing to Him, sing prais- | es to Him;\*

tell of all His | wondrous works!

**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!  
**Then Israel came to | Egypt; \***  
**Jacob sojourned in the | land of Ham.**  
 And the LORD made His people very | fruitful \*  
 and made them stronger | than their foes.  
**He turned their hearts to hate His | people, \***  
**to deal craftily with His | servants.**  
 He sent Moses, His | servant, \*  
 and Aaron, whom He had | chosen.  
**So He brought His people | out with joy, \***  
**His chosen ones with | singing.**  
 And He gave them the lands of the | nations, \*  
 and they took possession of the fruit of the | peoples' toil,  
**that they might keep His | statutes \*  
 and observe His laws. | Praise the Lord!**  
 Sing to Him, sing prais- | es to Him; \*  
 tell of all His | wondrous works!

*Sit*

## Hymn

## 338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;  
 2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!  
 From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
 Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king-dom bring.  
 Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
 By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;  
 Dear de - sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
 By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo-rious throne.

## READINGS

### First Reading

*Exodus 3:1–14*

**L** A reading from Exodus, the third chapter.

<sup>1</sup>Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup>And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." <sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup>Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup>And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup>Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup>and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup>Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup>He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup>Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" <sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Responsory for Advent

**L** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

**C** This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

**L** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

**C** This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

## Second Reading

John 15:1–8

A reading from John, the fifteenth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch of mine that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## O Great I Am, Almighty Word

sts. 1–2

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the staves, with two verses indicated by numbers 1 and 2.

1 O great I AM, al - might - y Word, Whose sav - ing  
2 Ap - pear - ing in a bush of flame, You called on  
deeds were seen and heard A - mong Your peo - ple  
Mo - ses to pro - claim De - liv'r - ance from cap -  
Is - ra - el, Come now to us, and ev - er dwell.  
tiv - i - ty And lead Your peo - ple through the sea.

## Sermon

## Catechesis

*The First Article*

**L** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?

**C** I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

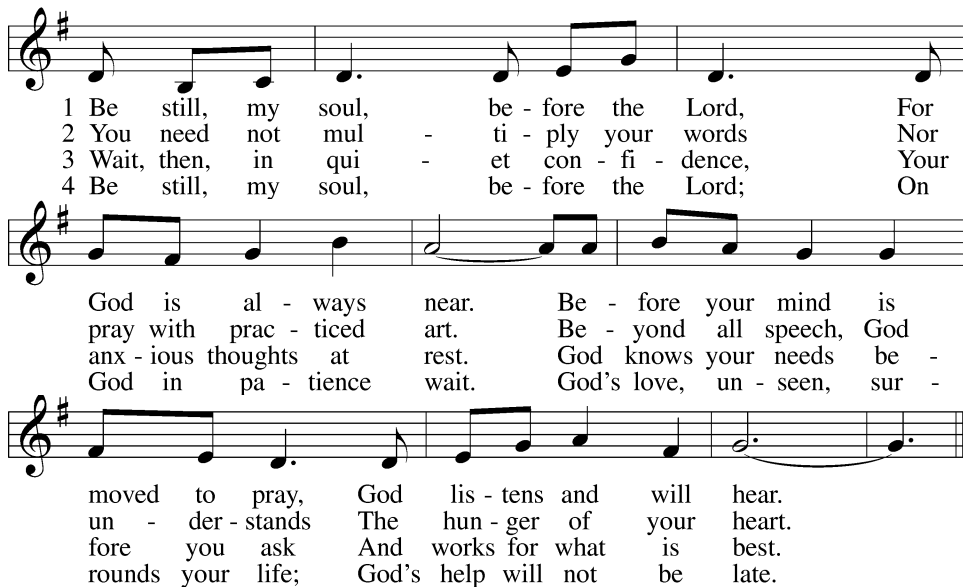
He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

## CANTICLE

Hymn

771 Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord



1 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord, For  
2 You need not mul - ti - ply your words Nor  
3 Wait, then, in qui - et con - fi - dence, Your  
4 Be still, my soul, be - fore the Lord; On

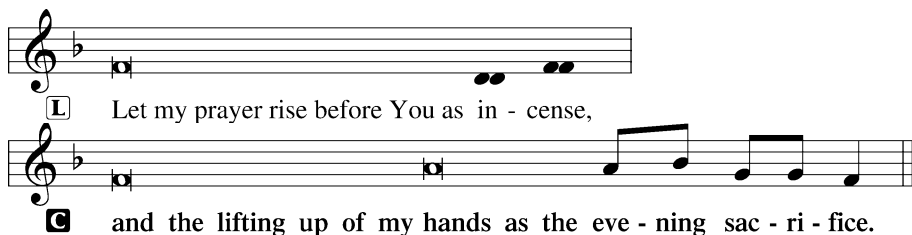
God is al - ways near. Be - fore your mind is  
pray with prac - ticed art. Be - yond all speech, God  
anx - ious thoughts at rest. God knows your needs be -  
God in pa - tience wait. God's love, un - seen, sur -

moved to pray, God lis - tens and will hear.  
un - der - stands The hun - ger of your heart.  
fore you ask And works for what is best.  
rounds your life; God's help will not be late.

*Stand*

**Antiphon (Common)**

*LSB, p. 231*



**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,  
**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



# Magnificat

LSB 231

**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;

**I** for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.

**II** For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.

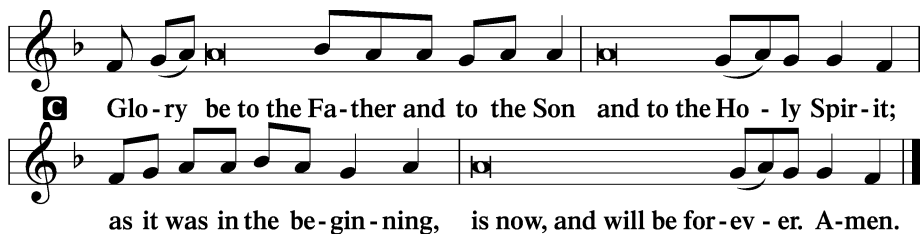
**I** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;

**II** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.

**I** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the  
imagination of their hearts. **II** He has cast down the  
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.

**I** He has filled the hun - gry with good things,  
and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.

**II** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy  
as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ev - er.



**G** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

## Offering

## PRAYER

### Kyrie

*LSB, p. 233*



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

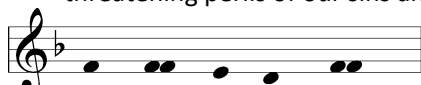
### Lord's Prayer

- G** 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.

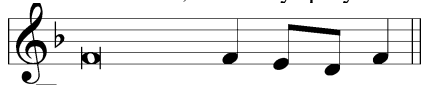
### Collects

*LSB 233*

- P** Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance.



- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



- G** And let my cry come to You.

- P** O Almighty God, You are the great I AM who rescued Your people from their slavery in Egypt and redeemed us from our bondage to sin and its death by Your beloved Son. Grant that we may recognize Your presence, rejoice in Your saving gifts, and remember Your mercy in every time of trouble or sorrow.



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

**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** Amen.

### Benedicamus

*LSB, p. 234*



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

*LSB 234*

**P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## Hymn

## 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



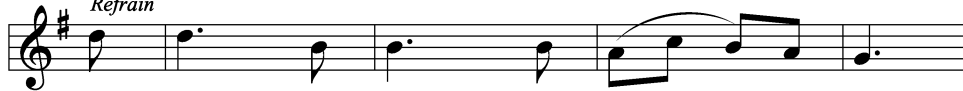
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest  
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy  
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
 tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.  
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

*Refrain*

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou 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. Refrain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
 And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
 And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
 Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 In one the hearts of all mankind;  
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
 And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

## Postlude

## Prepare the Royal Highway

Egil Hovland