

Midweek of Advent 1

For You and All the World

AS WE GATHER

The good news of Christ's birth is both universal and personal. The angel proclaims that Christ's birth is "good news of great joy . . . for all the people" (Luke 2:10). The heavenly host builds upon that by declaring that Christ's advent brings "peace among men" to make it known that Christ comes to save all. Even as the news is universally good for all people, it is also news delivered personally to the shepherds—"for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). What is for all people is most certainly "for you" because you are part of all people.

What do you find in Christ? Peace! He brings peace between you and the Father. You who are alienated from the Father by sin are now brought near to the Father in His Son. You have peace with Him. And so you sing with the heavenly host:
Joy, great joy and tidings glad we bring from heav'n resounding,
For you, for you and all the world abounding.

+ PREPARATION +

Service of Light

Stand

L The Spirit and the Church cry out:

C Come, Lord Jesus.

L All those who await His appearance pray:

C Come, Lord Jesus.

L The whole creation pleads:

C Come, Lord Jesus.

Phos Hilaron

LSB 244

- L** Joyous light of glory:
C of the immortal Father;
heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.
We have come to the setting of the sun,
and we look to the evening light.
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised
with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O Giver of life:
the universe proclaims Your glory.

Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

- L** Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel
by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by
the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our
path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your
creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Sit

Psalmody

Psalm 141

LSB 245

- C** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to You.
C Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
II Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.
I Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.
II But my eyes are turned to You, O God;
in You I take refuge.
Strip me not of my life.
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

L Let us pray.
Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 24

¹The earth is the LORD's and the full-ness thereof,*
the world and those who dwell therein,
²for he has founded it upon the seas*
and established it upon the rivers.
³Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?*
And who shall stand in his holy place?
⁴He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
⁵He will receive blessing from the LORD*
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
⁶Such is the generation of those who seek him,*
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.
⁷Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.
⁸Who is this King of glory?*The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!
⁹Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.
¹⁰Who is this King of glory?*The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!



341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the
 2 Arighteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot
 3 How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the
 4 Flung wide the portals of your heart; Make it a
 5 Redeemer, come and open wide My heart to



King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing
 is humbly, His kingly crown is holy
 ruler is confessed! O peaceful hearts and happy
 temple set apart From earthly use for heaven's
 Thee; here, Lord, abide! O enter with Thy grace di-



near; The Savior of the world is here. Life and sal-
 ness, His scepter, pity in distress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in triumph comes! The cloudless
 play, Adorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mercy on me shine. Thy Holy



vation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
 all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His people free.
 Sovereign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
 Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.



To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.
 To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

Tune and text: Public domain

Readings

Reading

Genesis 12:1-3

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Benedicamus

LSB 252

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 252

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

349 Hark the Glad Sound



1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior
 2 He comes the prisoners to release, In Sathan's
 3 He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding
 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome



promised long; Let every heart prepare a
 bond-age held. The gates of brass before Him
 soul to cure, And with the treasures of His
 shall proclaim, And heaven's eternal arches



throne And every voice a song.
 burst, The iron fetters yield.
 grace To enrich the humble poor.
 ring With Thy be- loved name.

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright ©

2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

The prayers then continue:

- ℣ For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:



- ℣ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

- ℣ Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:



Collect For Peace

- ℣ 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.

☩ Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

- ℣ Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

☩ 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.

Stand

Reading

1 John 4:9–14

⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

Reading

Luke 2:8–20

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

- ℣ In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

☩ But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

Canticle

Stand



Magnificat

LSB 248

C My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.
My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the
imagination of their hearts.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty
away.
He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to
our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.

Sit



Prayer

Kneel/Stand

Litany

LSB 249

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:



C Lord, have mer - cy.

L For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us
pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all
servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government
and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every
good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and
every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation,
those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from
the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for
peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the
Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the
Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.