



## **St. Luke's Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave  
Manhattan, KS 66503  
785-539-2604  
[www.stlukesmanhattan.org](http://www.stlukesmanhattan.org)

*Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.*

**Saturday, December 7, 2024 – 6:00 PM**  
**Sunday, December 8, 2024 – 8:30 AM**

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor*  
*William Prann, Director of Christian Education*  
*Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**(Series C)**  
**Divine Service, Setting 3**  
**(Page 184)**

## **WELCOME**

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, [office@stlukesmanhattan.org](mailto:office@stlukesmanhattan.org), or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

## **AS WE GATHER**

Mark Twain is sometimes attributed with the quote “Never put off till tomorrow what may be done the day after tomorrow just as well.” Though a humorous take on the problem of procrastination, there is a reality to the fact that we often are people who put things off until later, or even until it is too late. Thankfully, procrastinating is not an attribute of the one true God. As we focus on the Epistle from Philippians 1, we are reminded that the Lord always completes what He begins at His time. Even as we continue in our Advent season, we are assured that “when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law” (Galatians 4:4–5).

## **IMAGE ON THE COVER**

And [John the Baptist] went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. *Luke 3:3*

## **✠ PREPARATION ✠**

# 357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. ref, 3-4



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



tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



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!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.

Tune: French, 15th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**P** We light our second Advent candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again. In a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**C** **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

**P** The second Advent candle has been known by a few different names, including the Bethlehem candle, the preparation candle, and the candle of peace. As we await the angelic proclamation of “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased,” we rejoice in the present reality of the peace Christ has assured in and through Him until perfect and eternal peace is ushered in upon His return. In this season, and until that day, we find comfort in His assurance: “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.”

**C** **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

**P** Guided by the light of peace, we respond with the psalmist: “There are many who say, ‘Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of Your face upon us, O LORD!’

**C** **You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.**

**P** In peace I will both lie down and sleep;

**C** **for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.”**

## WE LIGHT TWO CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH

# WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

st. 2

2 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And thank the Lord for  
rest. With peace, we know our Je - sus Has  
come to be our guest. This peace be - yond all  
know - ing With - in our hearts is glow - ing. We  
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!

Text: Lisa M. Clark

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 2013 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship no. 110002155

Tune: Public domain

## EXHORTATION

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## **CONFESSION**

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

## **ABSOLUTION**

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

**✠ Word ✠**

# INTROIT

*Psalm 81:8, 10-11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b*



- P** The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:\*
- “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight.”
- C** Hear, O my people, while I ad- | monish you!\*
- O Israel, if you would but lis- | ten to me!
- P** I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.\*
- Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.
- C** But my people did not listen | to my voice;\*
- Israel would not sub- | mit to me.
- P** Oh, that my people would lis- | ten to me,\*
- that Israel would walk | in my ways!
- C** The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:\*
- “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight.”

**C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

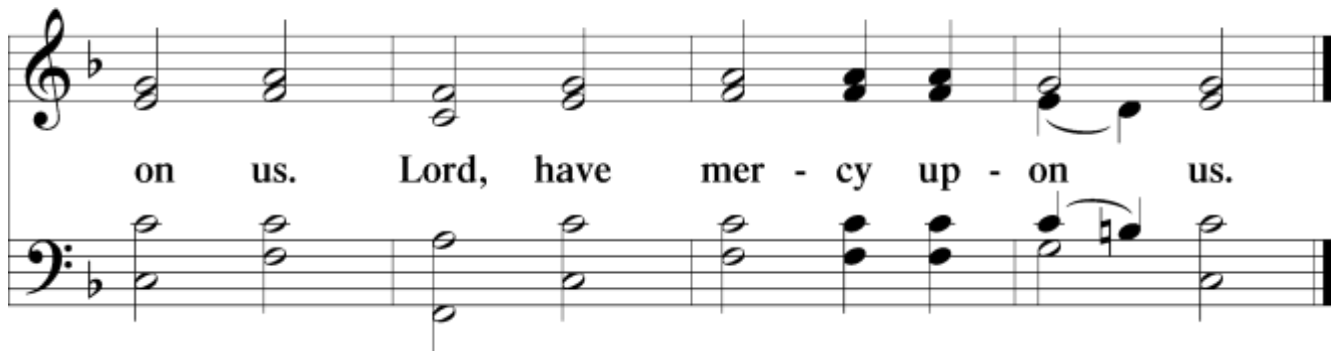
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

# KYRIE

LSB 186



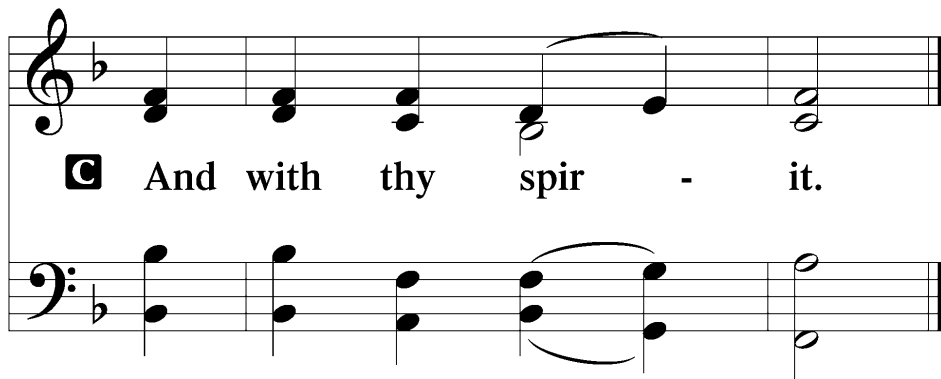
**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to receive with peace and joy the Savior made flesh,

**C** that at Your time of completion

**P** we may be found with faith and trust remaining in You,

**C** with knowledge and all discernment,

**P** so that we may approve what is excellent,

**C** and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,

**P** filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ,

**C** to the glory and praise of God;

**P** through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The image shows musical notation for the word "Amen". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The treble staff has a whole note chord (F4, A4) followed by a dotted half note chord (F4, A4) and a whole note chord (F4, A4). The bass staff has a dotted half note chord (F3, A3) followed by a whole note chord (F3, A3) and a whole note chord (F3, A3). The lyrics "A - men." are written below the treble staff, with a hyphen under the "A" and a period under the "men".

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Malachi 3:1-7b*

*(The messenger to prepare the way of the Lord.)*

<sup>1</sup>“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup>“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

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

## PSALM

*Psalm 66:1-12; antiphon: v. 12b*

**L** we went through fire and through water;

**C** **yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**

**L** <sup>1</sup>Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

**C** <sup>2</sup>**sing the glory of his name;  
give to him glorious praise!**

**L** <sup>3</sup>Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!

**C** **So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.**

**L** <sup>4</sup>All the earth worships you  
and sings praises to you;

**C** **they sing praises to your name.”**

**L** <sup>5</sup>Come and see what God has done:

**C** **he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.**

**L** <sup>6</sup>He turned the sea into dry land;

**C** **they passed through the river on foot.**

**L** There did we rejoice in him,

<sup>7</sup>who rules by his might forever,  
whose eyes keep watch on the nations—

**C** **let not the rebellious exalt themselves.**

**L** <sup>8</sup>Bless our God, O peoples;

**C** **let the sound of his praise be heard,**

**L** <sup>9</sup>who has kept our soul among the living

**C** **and has not let our feet slip.**

**L** <sup>10</sup>For you, O God, have tested us;

**C** **you have tried us as silver is tried.**

**L** <sup>11</sup>You brought us into the net;

**C** **you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**

**L** <sup>12</sup>you let men ride over our heads;

**C** **we went through fire and through water;**

**yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**

**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**

**L** we went through fire and through water;

**C** **yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**

# EPISTLE

*Philippians 1:2-11*

*(Paul's thanksgiving and prayer.)*

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ADVENT ALLELUIA and VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise be to our Ad - vent  
King. He was born in man - ger low - ly. He rose o - ver death and  
grave. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Now we wait ex - pect - ant - ly.

Tune: PICARDY (LSB 621, LW 15)  
Words: Michael J. Schmidt

# HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-20

*(John the Baptist prepares the way.)*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



**G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

<sup>7</sup>He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin 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>9</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>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup>And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” <sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

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

**P** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** We confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed,

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

## **LAMB'S MESSAGE**

### 344 ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
way for God with - in, And let us all our  
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Text and tune: Public domain

### SERMON

### VOTUM

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.



## **OFFERING**

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to  
St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
4801 Anderson Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66503
2. **Electronic Funds Transfer** - Sign up through the church office.

**STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE:** Luke 3:4 – “As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than seven hundred years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do! That’s yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives: He knows what’s coming and we don’t.

*Stand*

OFFERTORY

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** O Lord, our God, You declared Israel to be Your people and brought them out of Egypt. You desired their salvation even when they would not listen to Your voice. Since You have called and gathered us also to be Your people, open our hearts to listen and gladly submit to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, as You sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord, send forth pastors and missionaries to declare Your saving Word to the nations. Preserve them from temptation, protect them in suffering and equip them with every good gift to make known the Christ who still comes to save. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Heavenly Father, as You call and gather us into Your family, so bless the households of this congregation. Bless husbands and wives, fathers and mothers as they go about their work of strengthening marriage and raising children. Let their love abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment, and fill their homes with the righteousness that comes through Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord of hosts, St. John the Baptist counseled penitent soldiers to go about their military duties according to Your Word. Remember those who serve in the armed forces [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Protect them from harm, give them wisdom and courage, and grant that they fulfill their duties honorably. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful Lord, Your forerunner prepared the way for the One who is mightier than all: Your Son, Jesus Christ. For His sake, we entrust to You those in need of healing, comfort and rescue [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Have mercy upon them, deliver them according to Your will and strengthen them in faith, that they might be assured of Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Holy God, You sent Your Son to purify us, that we might be righteous and holy before You. Deliver us from the love of sin, which defiles us and stains our works. Cleanse our hearts by Your grace, so that we may delight in Your promises and our works would be pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*For the Lord's Prayer today we will be singing the following hymn.*

# OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, HEAR

TLH 455



1 Our heav'n-ly Fa - ther, hear The prayer we of - fer  
2 Thy king-dom come; Thy will On earth be done in  
3 Our dai - ly bread sup - ply While by Thy word we  
4 From dark temp - ta - tion's pow'r, From Sa - tan's wiles, de -  
5 Thine shall for - ev - er be Glo - ry and pow'r di -



now. Thy name be hal - lowed far and near; To  
love As saints and ser - a - phim ful - fill Thy  
live. The guilt of our in - iq - ui - ty For -  
fend. De - liv - er in the e - vil hour And  
vine; The scep - ter, throne, and maj - es - ty Of



Thee all na - tions bow.  
ho - ly will a - bove.  
give as we for - give.  
guide us to the end.  
heav'n and earth are Thine. A - men.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Tune: Samuel Howard, 1710–82

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

## CLOSING COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

## GREET ONE ANOTHER

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “The Lord be with you,” “Peace be with you,” or “The peace of the Lord be with you”.*

### 331 THE ADVENT OF OUR KING



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,  
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,  
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,  
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.  
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.  
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.  
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.

△6 All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76

Text and tune: Public domain

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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