

# THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8th, 2024



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MARTIN LUTHER  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Louis, MO

Pastor Seth Georgson

314-914-6457

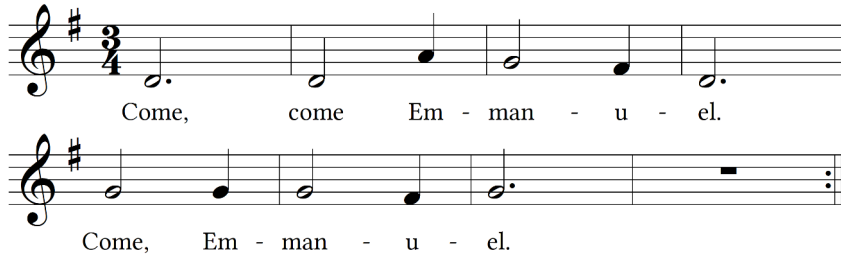
## THE COMMON SERVICE

### ADVENT GATHERING RITE

*The choir will sing the refrain twice before the congregation enters.*

*The congregation continues repeating the refrain until after the final verse.*

#### **Refrain**



#### **Verses (solo)**

1. Oh prepare the way, and... *Luke 3:4, 6*
2. He brings healing in its wings, so... *Malachi 4*
3. For the source of all patience will... *Romans 15:4-13*
4. Be prepared for the day God will... *Luke 21:25-36*

#### **Stand.**

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

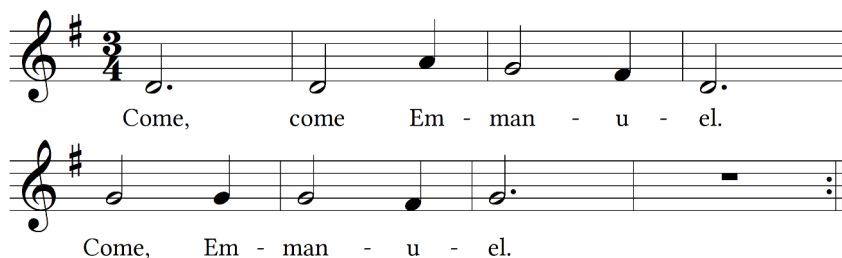
**C:** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

*The congregation enters with the first refrain.*

**Refrain**



**Verses (solo)**

1 Lord, have mercy upon us and...

2 Christ, have mercy upon us and...

3 Lord, have mercy upon us and...

### *Prayer of the Day*

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*Be seated.*

### THE WORD

#### **First Lesson ----- Malachi 4:1-6**

Look! The day is coming, burning like a blast furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble. The day that is coming will set them on fire, says the LORD of Armies, a day that will not leave behind a root or branch for them. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will rise, and there will be healing in its wings. You will go out and jump around like calves from the stall. You will trample the wicked. They will surely be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I take action, says the LORD of Armies.

Remember the law of my servant Moses, which I commanded to him at Horeb to serve as statutes and judgments over all Israel.

Look! I am going to send Elijah the prophet to you before the great and fearful day of the LORD comes! He will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers. Otherwise, I will come and strike the land with complete destruction.

*Refrain*

**I will hear what the Lord proclaims: peace to his people.**

You showed favor to your land, O LORD;\*  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people\*  
and covered all their sins.

Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,\*  
and grant us your salvation.

*Refrain*

I will listen to what God the LORD will say;\*  
he promises peace to his people, his saints.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,\*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet together;\*  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**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.**

*Refrain*

## Second Lesson ----- Romans 15:4-13

Indeed, whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that, through patient endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we would have hope. And may God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that with one mind, in one voice, you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For this reason, accept one another as Christ also accepted you to the glory of God. For I am saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for the sake of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs. He also did this so that the Gentiles would glorify God for his mercy, as it is written:

For this reason I will praise you among  
the Gentiles,  
and I will sing to your name.

And again it says:

Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.

And again:

Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples give him praise.

And again Isaiah says:

There will be a Root of Jesse,  
and he is the one who will rise up to rule  
the Gentiles;  
on him the Gentiles will place their hope.

Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### *Verse of the Day*

*Luke 3:4,6*

M: Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight. And everyone will see the salvation of God. Alleluia.



*Stand.*

## Gospel ----- Luke 21:25–36

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!**

“There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And on the earth nations will be in anguish, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the surging waves, people fainting from fear and expectation of the things coming on the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these things begin to happen, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near.”

He told them a parable. “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. As soon as they are sprouting leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is actually near. So also, when you see

these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Amen I tell you: This generation will not pass away until all these things happen. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

“Watch yourselves or else your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and the worries of this life, and that day may come on you suddenly. For it will come like a trap on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Stay alert all the time, praying that you may be able to escape all these things that are going to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### *Nicene Creed*

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all**

things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Be seated.*

**Hymn of the Day ----- Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**

CWS 704

1. Lo, he comes with clouds descending, Once for ev'ry sinner slain.  
Thousand, thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of his train.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ reveals his endless reign.
2. Ev'ry eye shall now behold him Robed in glorious majesty;  
Those who ridiculed and sold him, Pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing,  
Shall the true Messiah see.
3. Those dear tokens of his passion Still his dazzling body bears,  
Cause of endless exultation To his ransomed worshippers.  
With what wonder, With what wonder, With what wonder,  
Gaze we on those glorious scars.



4. Yea, Amen, let all adore you High on your eternal throne.  
Ev'ry knee shall bow before you; Come and take your people home!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
You shall reign and you alone!

Sermon ----- Luke 21:25-36

*Penitential Preparation*

*Stand.*

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*



C: 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 your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

*Be seated.*

*Offering*

*Stand.*

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Offerings support the spread  
of the Gospel here and around the world.

## *Prayer of the Church*

*The minister calls for the petitions and the congregation prays with “**Lord, have mercy.**”*

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the whole Church of Christ and this congregation, that amid the tumult and trouble of these times, we would be a people with uplifted heads and hearts, looking for the day of our redemption, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the fearful and distressed, that almighty God would guard our hearts against fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, and that He would strengthen our faith in joyful anticipation of Christ’s coming again in glory, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the tempted, that the Lord would preserve us from dissipation, drunkenness and every sin that would harm our faith and cause us to fear His coming in glory; and that He would strengthen our faith as we joyfully await His return, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For harmony, that God would defeat the plans of all who would stir up violence, destroy the weapons of those who delight in bloodshed, and according to His will, end all conflicts in our nation and world, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the Holy Spirit, that by God’s Word He would search our hearts to root out all evil that would lead to strife and discord so that we may be at peace with all people; and for zeal for the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, which alone can bring peace beyond understanding, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the sick, the suffering, the grieving and all who have requested our prayers, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] that our Rising Sun might overshadow them with His healing wings and shine His light upon them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For all who commune this day; for repentance and firm trust in Christ; for right discernment of His holy body in the Supper; and that God would fill us with joy and peace in believing so that, forgiven and abounding in hope, we may be able to stand with a clean conscience before His judgment throne, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, by Your Son You have revealed to us that heaven and earth will pass away, that our bodies will rise again, and that we will all appear before His judgment seat. We implore You, keep us in Your Word by Your Holy Spirit. Establish us in the true faith, defend us from all sin and preserve us in every temptation. Do not let our hearts be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness or the cares of this life, but lead us to trust fully in Your grace and so watch, pray and await with joy the glorious coming of Your Son, in whom we obtain eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

### *Lord's Prayer*

C: 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.

### THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: **And al - so with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Sanctus*



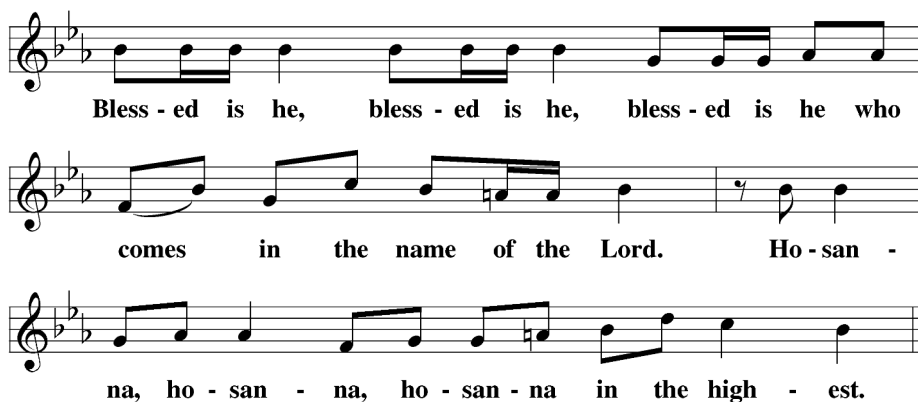
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### *Words of Institution*

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

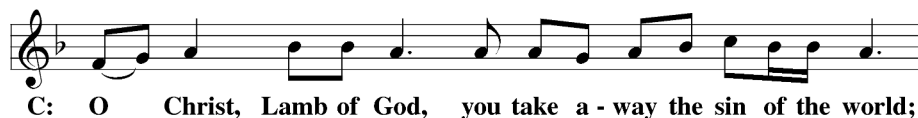
The peace of the Lord be with you always.



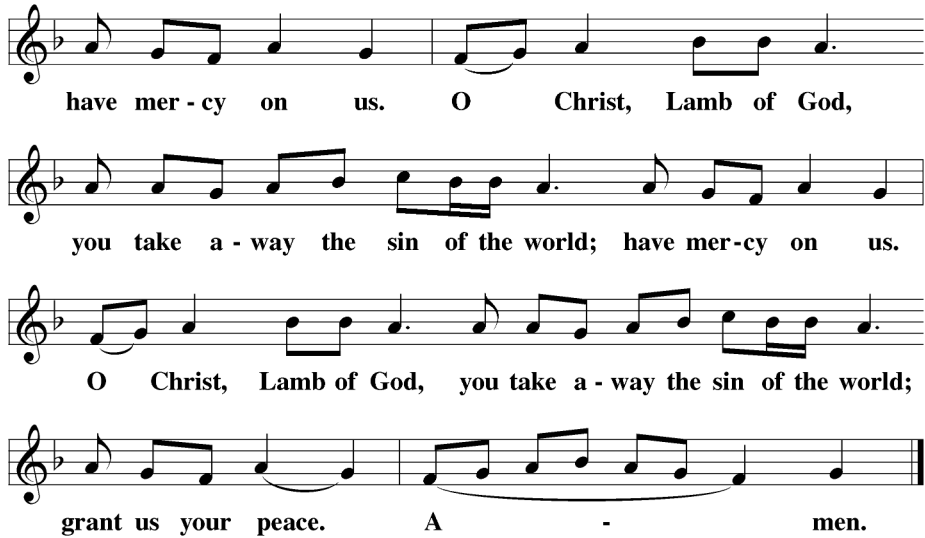
C: A - men.

### *O Christ, Lamb of God*

### *Agnus Dei*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



*Be seated.*

#### DISTRIBUTION

*In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.*

*During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:*

**Hymn ----- Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes**

CW 9

1. Jesus, your Church with longing eyes For your expected coming waits.  
 When will the promised light arise And glory beam from heaven's gates?

2. E'en now, when tempests round us fall  
     And wintry clouds o'er cast the sky,  
 Your words with pleasure we recall  
     And know that our redemption's nigh.
3. Come, gracious Lord, our hearts renew,  
     Our sins forgive, our foes suppress,  
 Our rooted enmity subdue, And crown your gospel with success.
4. Oh, come and reign o'er ev'ry land; Let Satan from his throne be hurled.  
 Let nations bow to your command; Let grace revive a dying world.
5. Teach us in watchfulness and prayer To wait for your appointed hour,  
 And fit us by your grace to share The triumphs of your conqu'ring pow'r.

**Hymn ----- O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**

CW 19

1. O Lord, how shall I meet you, How welcome you aright?  
 Your people long to greet you, My Hope, my heart's Delight.  
 O Jesus, let your Word be A lamp to light my way,  
 To show me how to please you, To guide me ev'ry day.
2. Love caused your incarnation; Love brought you down to me.  
 Your thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty.  
 Oh, love beyond all telling That led you to embrace  
 In love, all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race!
3. Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, Who sit in deepest gloom,  
 Who mourn o'er joys departed And tremble at your doom.  
 Despair not; he is near you, He's standing at the door  
 Who best can help and cheer you And bids you weep no more.

4. Sin's debt, that fearful burden, Let not your souls distress;  
Your guilt the Lord will pardon And cover by his grace.  
He comes, for you procuring The peace of sin forgiv'n,  
His children thus securing A heritage in heav'n.
5. He comes to judge the nations, A terror to his foes,  
A light of consolations, And blessed hope to those  
Who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,  
Send forth your beams most cheering, And guide us safely home.

*After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:*

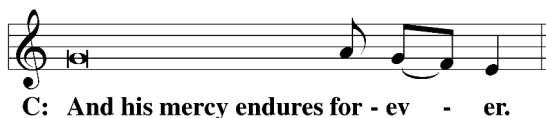
*Song of Simeon*

*Nunc Dimittis*



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen-tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.



M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



*Be seated.*

## Hymn ----- Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

CW 15

1. Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding; "Christ is near," we hear it say.  
 "Cast away the works of darkness; You are children of the day."
2. Lo, the Lamb, so long-expected, Comes with pardon down from heav'n.  
 Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all, to be forgiv'n,
3. That, when next he comes with glory And the world is wrapped in fear,  
 He may shield us with his mercy And with words of love draw near.
4. Honor, glory, might, dominion To the Father and the Son  
 With the everlasting Spirit While eternal ages run!



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