**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

December 3, 2022

The Order for Worship

As We Gather

In the opening verses of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, John greets the readers of his epistle in this singular way: “Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come” (Revelation 1:4). John is confident that God’s grace is readily available for the readers of his letter who are scattered in many Christian gatherings across the area of Asia. And he is certain that the peace of God can reach to all of his readers in their very different and individual situations. The Advent season brings us the assurance that God’s plan is still unfolding and that we continue to abide in His peace. In this season of busyness, we can be peaceful and peaceable people by God’s grace!

Today we continue our series, *"Who is Jesus?"* Today we consider Abraham's son, Isaac. With Abraham and Isaac, we see a forerunner of Jesus who is indeed the Son of Abraham and our Son of Sacrifice.

Opening Proclamation (Psalm 118:24)

P "This is the day the Lord has made...

C **We will rejoice and be glad in it."**

Welcome & Announcements

**PREPARATION**

Opening Hymn LSB 332 Savior of the Nations, Come sts. 1–5

1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin’s Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav’n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.

2 Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman’s offspring, pure and fresh.

3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne.

4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all
From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man,
His heroic course began.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001
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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences Psalm 25:1–2a, 4–5, 21; Proverbs 3:5–6

P Jesus is the Son of *David*.

C **Our coming King!**

P Jesus is the Son of *Abraham*.

C **Our sacrifice for sin!**

P Jesus is the Son of *Solomon*.

C **He finished for us!**

P Jesus is the Son of *Mary*.

C **Immanuel—God with us!**

P Jesus is the Son of *Sinners*.

C **He forever loves us! Let us worship *Jesus*!**

Confession and Absolution

P O God, our Father, You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.

C **Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. We acknowledge our sinful nature and confess our sinful thoughts, words, and deed. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.**

P Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in T peace.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise LSB 332 Savior of the Nations, Come sts. 6–8

6 For You are the Father’s Son
Who in flesh the vict’ry won.
By Your mighty pow’r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

D 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973; (st. 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001
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Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

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.

C **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P Our Advent wreath helps us as we prepare for the coming of our Savior and King. The light of the candles bring to mind these words of Jesus from the Gospel of John, “*I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life*.” The wreath has come to symbolize the great victory of Jesus and the everlasting life we have only in Him.

P The first candle was called the Prophecy Candle or the Hope Candle, a reminder of God's many Old Testament promises to send a Messiah to save His people. The second candle is called the Bethlehem candle, or the Peace Candle.

C **This is a reminder to us that on that very first Christmas, Jesus Christ, came to that Bethlehem stable to be the Prince of Peace. He came to reconcile our relationship with the Heavenly Father.**

P The book of Colossians encourages us, "*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.*" We light this second candle as a reminder of God's coming peace in a world broken by sin, where evil, violence and injustice are all around us.

C **God’s Messiah is on His way; He is coming again to establish His peace once and for all.**

P And so as we stare into the glow of this Peace Candle, our heartfelt prayer is that God would grant us His peace that surpasses all human understanding. We pray that He would indeed rule in our hearts and lives, that in the clutter and chaos of our lives, we would find moments of calm to worship. We pray...

C **Faithful God, grant us Your peace so we may be reconciled to all enemies and in all our relationships. Lord, help us to find comfort in the peace You bring. Comfort us in our renewed relationship with the Father. Lead and encourage us as we seek to share that same peace with people in our lives. Let the glow of this second candle remind us of the peace only found in You and bring us to our Emmanuel once more. Amen!**

Advent Video

Old Testament Reading Genesis 22:1–14

A The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 22.

 1After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” 2He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” 3So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. 4On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. 5Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” 6And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. 7And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” 8Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

 9When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. 11But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” 12He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” 13And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1–2, 8–13 Psalm 72:1–7



1Lord, you were favorable | to your land;\*
 you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
**2You forgave the iniquity of your** | **people;**\*
 **you covered** | **all their sin.**

8Let me hear what God the | Lord will speak,\*
 for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
 but let them not turn back to | folly.
**9Surely his salvation is near to those who** | **fear him,**\*
 **that glory may dwell** | **in our land.**

10Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;\*
 righteousness and peace kiss each | other.
**11Faithfulness springs up** | **from the ground,**\*
 **and righteousness looks down** | **from the sky.**
12Yes, the Lord will give | what is good,\*
 and our land will yield its | increase.
**13Righteousness will go be-** | **fore him**\*
 **and make his foot-** | **steps a way.**

Epistle Reading Romans 8:31–34

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 8.

 31What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel Matthew 20:20–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

 20Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. 21And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” 22Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” 23He said to them, “You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” 24And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. 25But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 26It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 27and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, 28even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day LSB 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

1 “Comfort, comfort ye My people,
 Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God;
“Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning ’neath their sorrows’ load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell her that her sins I cover
 And her warfare now is over.”

2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
 Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
 He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many\_a day,
Now her griefs have passed away;
 God will change her pining sadness
 Into ever-springing gladness.

3 Hark, the herald’s voice is crying
 In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners to repentance,
 Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet Him
 And the hills bow down to greet Him.

4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
 Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o’er earth is shed abroad,
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That His Word is never broken.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Offertory

Offertory Hymn LSB 354 Arise, O Christian People sts. 1, 3

1 Arise, O Christian people!
 Prepare yourselves today;
Prepare to greet the Savior,
 Who takes your sins away.
To us by grace alone
 The truth and light were given;
 The promised Lord from heaven
To all the world is shown.

3 The humble heart and lowly
 God raises up on high;
Beneath His feet in terror
 The haughty soul shall lie.
The heart sincere and right,
 That heeds God’s invitation
 And makes true preparation—
It is the Lord’s delight.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.
Text: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs.

Come, O Lord, among us, that as people united in faith, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus. With hope we pray:

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

P Come, O Lord, with Your presence on earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule there be times of peace. Come to our nation, that we find joy in that which is done through it by the leaders and by the people. With hope we pray:

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

P Come, O Lord, and walk beside us that Your love and blessing be evident in all that we say and do. With hope we pray:

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

P Come, O Lord, and bring Your response to the special concerns on our hearts today, including health and family needs and situations that are part of life, [*including* . . .]. With hope we pray:

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

P For all those who have completed their earthly journey in faith and now rest from their labors in eternal peace and joy, serving as witnesses of Your never-ending care, we bless You, O Lord, and ask that we also be numbered with the saints in glory everlasting. With hope we pray:

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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.**

**SACRAMENT**

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for You have established Your kingdom of peace among us and have brought to us the joy of Your salvation in our lives. Above all, we bless You and give thanks for the limitless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son as the fulfillment of Your great promises. Through the working of Your Holy Spirit, bestow upon us Your supporting presence, Lord, now and forever. Together with angels and archangels and with all who rejoice in the courts of heaven we praise Your glorious name:

Sanctus LSB 161

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei LSB 163

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

**Distribution Hymns**

Distribution Hymn LSB 392 God Loves Me Dearly

1 God loves me dearly,
Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me. Refrain

ref Therefore I’ll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.

2 I was in slav’ry,
Sin, death, and darkness;
God’s love was working
To make me free. Refrain

3 He sent forth Jesus,
My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus
And set me free. Refrain

4 Jesus, my Savior,
Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior,
Paid all I owed. Refrain

5 Now I will praise You,
O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You
All my life long. Refrain

Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. composite
Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn LSB 763 When Peace, like a River

1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
 When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
 It is well, it is well with my soul. Refrain

ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
 Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
 And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain

3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
 My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain

4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
 The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
 Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt.
Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis LSB 165

C **Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev’ry people:**

**A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.**

**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.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have again welcomed us at Your Table and have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. Grant that the body and blood of our Lord now within us keep us joy-filled and secure in Your love. Bless us through this divine gift that we may live with assurance and confidence, even in times of earthly sadness and sorrow. Grant that Your Holy Spirit enlighten us with His gifts that we be people who rejoice in Your promises and live to Your glory. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

Benediction

Closing Hymn LSB 349 Hark the Glad Sound

1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
 The Savior promised long;
Let ev’ry heart prepare a throne
 And ev’ry voice a song.

2 He comes the pris’ners to release,
 In Satan’s bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
 The iron fetters yield.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
 The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
 To enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
 Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav’n’s eternal arches ring
 With Thy belovèd name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51
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