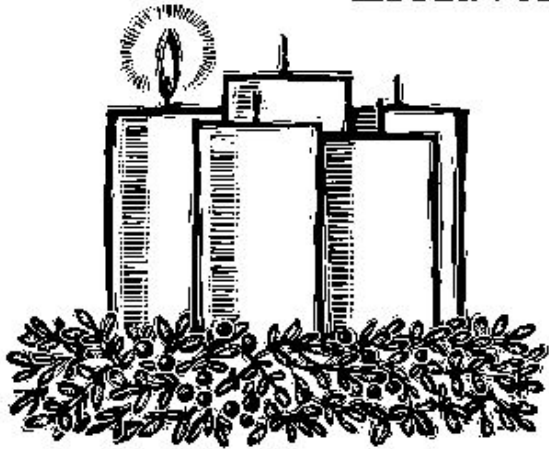


First Sunday in Advent



November 29, 2020

At Home Worship
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Closter, New Jersey

Our service today is taken from *Hymnal Supplement '98*.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION

INVOCATION

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Pastor If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

Congregation **O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor But with You there is forgiveness;

Congregation **therefore You are feared.**

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

Pastor O almighty God, merciful Father,

Congregation **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. 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.**

ENTRANCE HYMN *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 beloved name.**

KYRIE Lord, have mercy on us; Christ have mercy on us;
Lord, have mercy on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heavenly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious victory won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high:
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation And with your spirit.

Pastor 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;
for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Congregation Amen.

READINGS

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

- 1 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence---
- 2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil---
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
- 3 When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
- 4 From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.
- 5 You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?
- 6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

- 7 There is no one who calls upon your name,
 who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
 and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
- 8 But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
- 9 Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
 and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

After the reading:

Lector This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus,⁵ that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge---⁶ even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you---⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ,⁸ who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

After the reading:

Lector This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe

That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, chapter eleven beginning at verse one.

Congregation Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples² and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it."³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'"⁴ And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it.⁵ And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"⁶ And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go.⁷ And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.⁸ And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.⁹ And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

After the reading:

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord
Congregation Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

**1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.**

***Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**2. O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain***

**3. 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.***

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

after each portion of the prayer:

Pastor Lord, in Your mercy,

Congregation hear our prayer.

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

Congregation Amen.

LITANY (Sung)

Pastor In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor 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.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor For Pastor Holsten, our Pastor in Christ, for all the servants of the church and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor For our 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.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

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

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor 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.

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

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

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

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

Congregation Lord, have mercy.

Pastor For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ Let us give thanks to the Lord.

Congregation Alleluia.

Pastor Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

(Silence for meditation)

Pastor Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

Congregation To You, O Lord.

Pastor 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 the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Congregation Amen.

Pastor Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

PRAYER

Pastor Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation Amen.

BLESSING

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

Congregation Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *The Advent of Our King*

1 The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

4 As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
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.