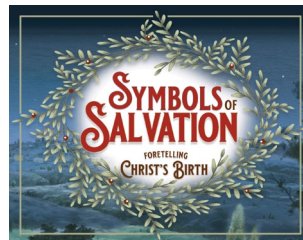


# WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

## ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE

*"Symbols of Salvation: Foretelling Christ's Birth"*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021 | 7 PM



### \* *As We Gather* \*

We often imagine that God's presence is made known through our feelings, but God has a history of showing His presence in more concrete ways. Throughout Scripture, He attaches Himself to places like Sinai or the tabernacle or the temple or the flesh and blood of His only-begotten Son. Today, we recall how God manifested His presence to His people in the mystery of the cloud and thereby assured them that He was with them and would fulfill His promise never to abandon them. Advent reminds us that at many times and in many ways, God spoke to His people of old, but now, He has spoken through His Son. In Christ, God tabernacles with us and continues to deliver to us the fruits of His saving work on the cross.

*Please follow the service in the worship folder. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering box at the Sanctuary door as you exit.*

### \* *Preparation* \*

## WORDS OF WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

*The Advent of Our King*

LSB 331



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.

Tune and text: Public domain

## INVOCATION

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People Amen.**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*Psalms 124:8*

Pastor Our help is in the name of the LORD,

**People Who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor In this season of penitence and reflection, let us think of our unworthiness and confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, asking for His merciful forgiveness.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination)*

Pastor God Almighty,

**People Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

Pastor Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son, our Emmanuel, to die for us, and for His sake, forgives us all our sins. 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.

**People Amen.**

## SALUTATION & COLLECT

Pastor The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Pastor Let us pray.  
Almighty Father, by the advent of Your Son into the world, the kingdom of heaven now is open to all who believe in Him. Grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may believe in Him with our whole heart and serve Him in our daily lives, so that when He comes again in glory, we may, by Your mercy, be gathered into His eternal courts with all the faithful. This we ask in His blessed name.

**People Amen.**

\* *Word* \*

**FIRST READING**

*Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38*

<sup>17</sup>In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. <sup>18</sup>Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. <sup>19</sup>And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. <sup>20</sup>He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. <sup>21</sup>And he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses. ...

<sup>34</sup>Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup>And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. <sup>36</sup>Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. <sup>37</sup>But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. <sup>38</sup>For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

Lector This is the Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Psalms 86*

Pastor Incline Your ear, O LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

**People Preserve my life, for I am godly; save Your servant, who trusts in You—You are my God.**

Pastor Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to You do I cry all the day. Gladden the soul of Your servant, for to You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

**People For You, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon You.**

Pastor Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. In the day of my trouble I call upon You, for You answer me.

**People There is none like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours.**

Pastor All the nations You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name. For You are great and do wondrous things; You alone are God.

**People Teach me Your way, O LORD, that I may walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name.**

Pastor I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify Your name forever.

**People For great is Your steadfast love toward me; You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.**

Pastor O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men seek my life, and they do not set You before them.

**People But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Pastor Turn to me and be gracious to me; give Your strength to Your servant, and save the son of Your maidservant.

**People Show me a sign of Your favor, that those who hate me may see and be put to shame because You, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

**ALL 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.**

## **SECOND READING**

*Isaiah 40:9-12*

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and His arm rules for Him;

behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him.

<sup>11</sup>He will tend His flock like a shepherd;

He will gather the lambs in His arms;

He will carry them in His bosom,

and gently lead those that are with young.

<sup>12</sup>Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand  
and marked off the heavens with a span,  
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure  
and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?

Lector This is the Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE

*Daniel 7:13-14*

Pastor I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him.

**People And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him;**

Pastor His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away,

**People And His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*John 1:14-18*

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about Him, and cried out, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>And from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, He has made Him known.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN

*Sing Praise to the God of Israel*

LSB 936



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His  
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on  
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His  
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,  
 oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:  
 way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,  
 lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a  
 Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -  
 His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and  
 And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!  
 liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.  
 grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.  
 foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

Text: © 1992 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110340712  
 Tune: Public domain

**SERMON**

*"The Lord Sets Up His Tent Among Us"*

Rev. Shawn Deterding

**CATECHISM ~ *The Second Article***

**People** **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.**

**Pastor** What does this mean?

**People** **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

**who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,**

**that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,  
just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.  
This is most certainly true.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**ALL**        **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.**

### **ADVENT ANTIPHON**

**Pastor**     **O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:**  
**People**     **Come quickly to deliver us.**

### **HYMN VERSE**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

LSB 357 (v. 4)

*O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree, Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

### **ADVENT ANTIPHON**

**Pastor**     **O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, You open and no one can close,  
You close and no one can open:**  
**People**     **Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.**

### **HYMN VERSE**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

LSB 357 (v. 5)

*O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## PRAYER

Pastor O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

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

People **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*

LSB 348



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text and tune: Public domain

✧ *Go in peace* ✧

© 2021 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture quotations, unless noted otherwise, are taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Hymns are public domain.







## **WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

12340 FM 1641 | P.O. Box 2146 | Forney, TX 75126  
Main: 972-552-9393 | [terri@wateroflifelc.org](mailto:terri@wateroflifelc.org)

### **REV. SHAWN DETERDING**

Cell: 785-914-9003 | [pastorshawn@wateroflifelc.org](mailto:pastorshawn@wateroflifelc.org)

**WEBSITE:** [www.wateroflifelc.org](http://www.wateroflifelc.org)



### **TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Giving is an act of grace through which we gratefully respond to God's kindness to us in Jesus Christ. Tithes and offerings can be placed in the offering box at the Sanctuary doors as you exit. Contributions can also be given through your banking institution's online bill pay service, our website, or the *Givelify* mobile app.



### **ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Symbols of Salvation: Foretelling Christ's Birth*

Wednesday, December 15 \* 7 PM

Soup Supper \* 6 PM



### **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

Thursday, December 24 \* 7 PM

*Accompanied by 10-piece orchestra*



### **CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

*The Nativity of Our Lord*

Friday, December 25 \* 10 AM

