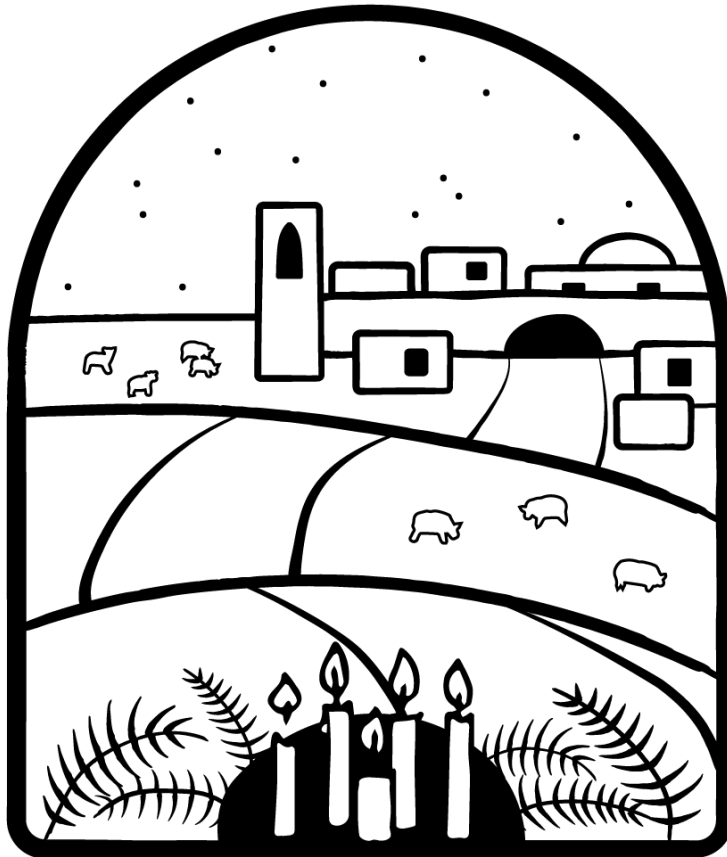


Second Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 7, 2025



ADVENT
IMMINENT ARRIVAL

Imminent Arrival of the Judge



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org
Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord's Supper, read through the "Christian Questions" on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today's Focus for Worship – Imminent Arrival of the Judge

The judge is an important person. You stand when he enters the courtroom. What he says must be obeyed. If you are the one on trial, his determinations make a big difference in how your life will continue. You might be quite nervous if the judge is about to arrive. John invited people to turn their nervousness to repentance. He says that the arrival of the Judge is imminent, and the kingdom of heaven is near! You are invited to hear John, repent, and believe the good news of the coming Savior.

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Preacher: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Accompanist: Cindy Klink

Acknowledgments

Today's service is adapted from *Christian Worship: Hymnal*, © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House, p. 207 – "Morning Prayer (Matins)." Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by *Christian Worship: Service Builder* © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. The Prayer of the Church is reprinted from *Praying with the Readings...* © Paul C. Stratman. Used with permission. The Closing Collect is reprinted from *Now and Forever: Contemporary Collects...*, © Paul C. Stratman. Used with permission.

Morning Prayer

Matins



Opening Hymn

When All the World Was Cursed | 317
Please stand to sing the final stanza.

Psalm 51:15; 70:1

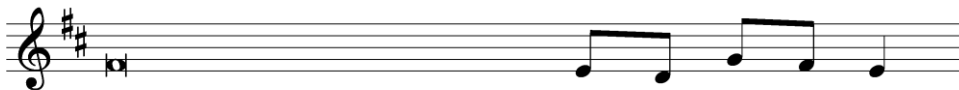
O Lord, o - pen my lips,
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.
Has - ten to save me, O God;
O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.
Advent Rejoice, your King comes to you:
praise and thanks to God!

O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord *Venite*

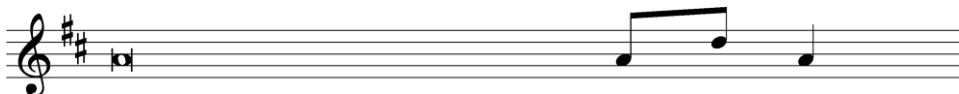
Psalm 95:1-7



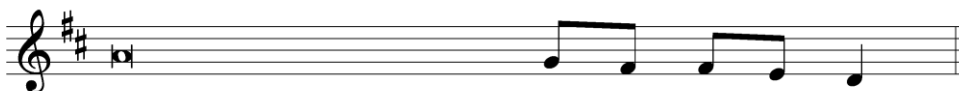
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great _____ God
- 3 The sea is his, for he made _____ it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and his hand formed the dry _____ land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow _____ down,
- 4 For he is our God,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
- 2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of his
pasture and the sheep of his _____ hand.

Advent Candles

We light two Advent candles, remembering Jesus who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

We remember Jesus who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.

We hear his call to repent.

We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

During the season of Advent, we replace the jubilant “Gloria in Excelsis” with a more reflective Advent verse, as we light the candles of the Advent wreath.

Two Advent candles are lit. After the introduction, the congregation sings the Advent Verse twice.



To you I lift my soul. To you I lift my
soul. To you, O LORD, to you, O LORD, I
lift, I lift my soul.

Text: adapt. Francis Patrick O'Brien

Tune: Francis Patrick O'Brien

Text and tune: © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709159

Be seated

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—³and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.
⁵Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. ⁹They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

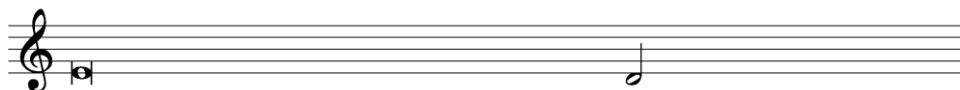


Psalm of the Day

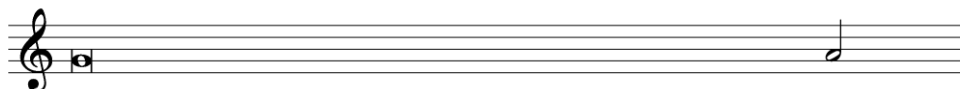
De Profundis | 130-E



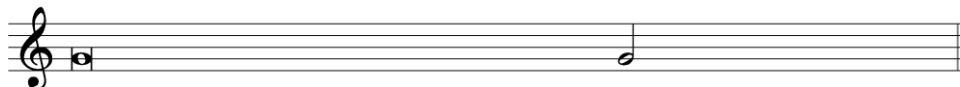
1 Out of the depths have I cried unto you, O LORD;
 2 If you, LORD, should mark iniquities,
 3 I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
 4 Let Israel hope in the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy,
 5 **Glory be to the Father and to the Son**



1 Lord, hear my voice.
 2 O Lord, who shall stand?
 3 and in his word do I hope.
 4 and with him is plenteous redemption.
 5 **and to the Holy Spirit,**



1 Let your ears be attentive
 2 But there is forgiveness with you,
 3 My soul waits for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning,
 4 And he shall redeem Israel
 5 **as it was in the beginning,**



1 to the voice of my supplications.
 2 that you may be feared.
 3 I say, more than they that watch for the morning.
 4 from all its iniquities.
 5 **is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Text: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Text and tune: Public domain

⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed ⁹and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name."

¹⁰Again, it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him."

¹²And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem (8:00)

Peace Came to Earth | 330

Sung by Grades 5-8

- 1 Peace came to earth at last that chosen night
when angels clove the sky with song and light
and God embodied love and sheathed his might—
Who could but gasp: Immanuel! Who could but sing: Immanuel!
- 2 And who could be the same for having held
the infant in their arms and later felt
the wounded hands and side, all doubts dispelled—
Who could but sigh: Immanuel! Who could but shout: Immanuel!
- 3 You show the Father none has ever seen,
in flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,
in bread and wine you visit us again—
Who could but see: Immanuel! Who could but thrill: Immanuel!

4 How else could I have known you, O my God!
How else could I have loved you, O my God!
How else could I embrace you, O my God!
Who could but pray: Immanuel! Who could but praise: Immanuel!

Hymn (10:30)

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying | 308

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ² and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" ⁴ John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶ Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

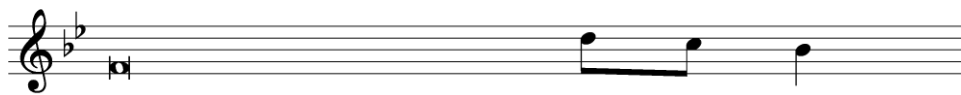
Be seated

Sermon

Matthew 3:1-12

Repent and Believe

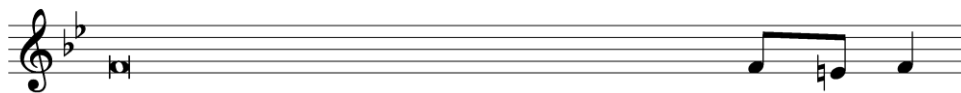
Stand

We Praise You, O God *Te Deum Laudamus**Psalm 75:1; Isaiah 6:3; Philippians 2:6-11*

- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
- 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
- 3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise ____ you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
- 2 heaven and earth are full ____ of your glo - ry.
- 3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
- 2 The glorious company of apostles praise ____ you.
- 3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;



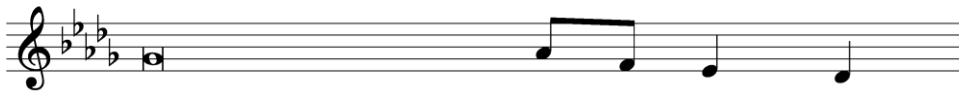
- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
- 2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise ____ you.
- 3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.



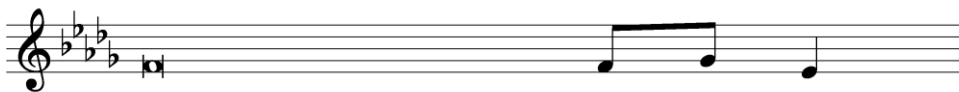
- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.



5 When you became man to set us free,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



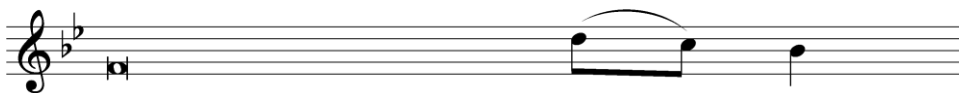
5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.



5 You overcame the sting of death
6 We believe that you will come



5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
6 to be our judge.



7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,



7 bought with the price of your own blood,



7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated

Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

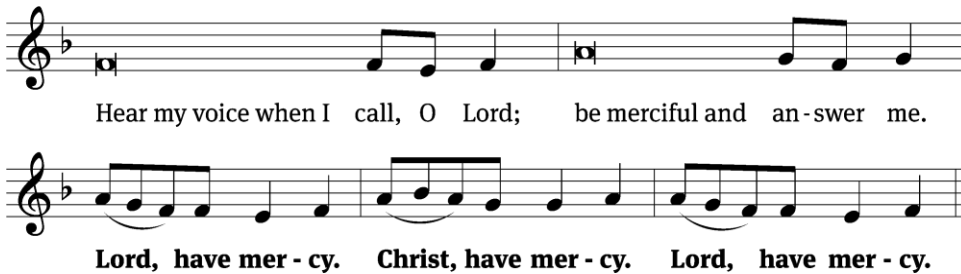
Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

Hymn

Comfort, Comfort All My People | 312

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

Matthew 15:22; 17:15; Mark 10:47



Prayer of the Church

Psalm 130:5

Jesus, our Lord Immanuel, you are the shoot from the stump of Jesse. You bring us hope out of hopelessness, life out of death, and power from weakness. Empower us to live holy lives as we look forward to the day of your coming.

We wait for you, O Lord, we wait for you. In your Word we put our hope.

Let the earth be full of your knowledge as the waters cover the sea. As your kingdom comes to human hearts, cool the heat of hatred and calm the frenzy of anger. Give us your Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and power.

We wait for you, O Lord, we wait for you. In your Word we put our hope.

John the Baptist called out, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near." Fill the world with the sound of your gospel that more people may enjoy your forgiveness and peace.

We wait for you, O Lord, we wait for you. In your Word we put our hope.

We pray for those who watch over us for your sake, pastors, teachers, elders and others who teach and lead us in your church, so that through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Fill their hearts with your Word that they take to heart what they also teach. **We wait for you, O Lord, we wait for you. In your Word we put our hope.**

Bring your holy comfort to your people, especially those who suffer sickness and hardships of all kinds, [...]. Remind them that you came to bear our griefs and carry our sorrows, and that their sins have been paid for by your blood.

We wait for you, O Lord, we wait for you. In your Word we put our hope.

O Lord, move our hearts to constant repentance, and turn our hearts from every temptation and evil, that at your coming we may be ready to receive what you have promised; you live and reign, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Closing Collect

God of hope, give us endurance, encouragement, joy and peace. Move us to repentance, change our hearts with your eternal Word, and dwell with us forever; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Let Us Praise the Lord *Benedicamus*

1 Corinthians 15:57



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

Blessing *Apostolic Benediction*

2 Corinthians 13:14



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



A - men.

Closing Hymn

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding | 318



2025 Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

Second Sunday in Advent	Sunday, December 7, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 8, 6:30 pm
Midweek Advent Vespers	Wednesday, December 10, 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Third Sunday in Advent	Sunday, December 14, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 15, 6:30 pm
Children's Christmas Service	Sunday, December 14, 4:00 pm
Midweek Advent Vespers	Wednesday, December 17, 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Fourth Sunday in Advent	Sunday, December 21, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 22, 6:30 pm
Christmas Eve	Wednesday, December 24, 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25, 9:30 am
The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	Sunday, December 28, 8:00 am and 10:30 am <i>No Monday night service, December 29</i>
New Year's Eve	Wednesday, December 31, 4:30 pm