



November 30, 2025

The First Sunday in Advent

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

The night is far gone; the day is at hand.

So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Romans 13:12

Holy and gracious God,

We confess that we have sinned against You this day. Some of our sin we know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which we are ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ we ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore us that we may rest in peace.

Time of Silence

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Philippians 1:6

Processional Hymn *Please Stand* Music: “Joyful” Hymn 803 “Come Thou Long-Expected”

♪ Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.

♪ Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 338—Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.; Text: Public domain

Kyrie

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. 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.

Amen.

Psalmody *Please Be Seated*

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,

To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! “May they be secure who love you!

Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!”

For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, “Peace be within you!”

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it,

³and many peoples shall come, and say:

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall

love your neighbor as yourself.”¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“Savior of the Nations, Come” vv. 1–3; 6–8

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

Please Stand

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

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 332—Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973; Text (sts. 1–2): Public domain.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, ‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’” ⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Hark the Glad Sound”

- ♪ Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.
- ♪ He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.
- ♪ He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace To_ enrich the humble poor.
- ♪ Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 349—Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51; Text: Public domain

Proclamation of the Word

“Peace Beyond the Walls”

Psalm 122:1–9

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

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.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

- ♪ O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him Born the king of angels:
- ~ O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!
- ♪ Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! ~ O come...
- ♪ Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest: ~ O come...
- ♪ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing! ~ O come....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 379—Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786;
Text: Public domain*

Postlude