

Celebration!

Advent 1
November 28, 2021

Come, Lord Jesus, Hope of the World.
Come, Lord Jesus, enter into our hearts today.

Advent Candlelighting:

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

The First Advent candle is lighted



Days of Elijah

**These are the days of Elijah declaring the Word of the Lord
And these are the days of your servant Moses, righteousness being restored
And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice In the desert crying, prepare ye the way of the Lord.**

Chorus **Behold he comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun, at the trumpet call
so lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.**

**And these are the days of Ezekiel - the dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days of your servant David - rebuilding a temple of praise
And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world
And we are the laborers in your vineyard - declaring the Word of the Lord**

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Build Up

Chorus: **Build up, prepare the way - remove the obstructions from my people's way
Build up, prepare the way - God is near, God is here today**

**¹Break the chains of injustice
Let the oppressed go free
Share our homes with the homeless
and our bread with the hungry** (*Chorus*)

**²God sees all our destruction
How we get in love's way
Still God comes and meets us
with a steady, healing embrace** (*Chorus*)

Bridge: Then your light will break forth like the dawn and your healing will break into song (*Chorus*)

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A Dialog for Our Worship Today

Rejoice, for the day of the Lord is at hand!

Praise be to God who has heard our cries and sends our Messiah!

Soon a child shall be born to a virgin and he shall be called Jesus.

The Son of the Almighty God! The Prince of Peace!

And all the world will join us in singing praise to our Messiah.

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Prayer

Let us pray together: **O God, through your giving of the Word become flesh in Christ, you have spoken to us of unlimited accepting love. Help us to have the courage to receive your gift and share it with everyone we meet. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

Announcements and Prayer Concerns

Scripture Reading: Luke 21:25-36

Sermon: Pastor Paulette Obrecht

Waiting Here For You

**If faith can move the mountains, let the mountains move
We come with expectation, waiting here for you – waiting here for you**

**You're the Lord of all creation, and still you know my heart
The Author of Salvation, you've loved us from the start**

Chorus **Waiting here for You with our hands lifted high in praise
And it's You we adore, singing Alleluia**

**You are everything You've promised, Your faithfulness is true
And we're desperate for Your presence, all we need is You**

Chorus **Singing Alleluia; singing Alleluia**

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Prepare Ye The Way

**¹The Word of the Lord came one evening
Concerning his bride's great sin
So he sent down his Word to renew her
To prepare for the Bridegroom again**

**²Repent of seeking vain glories
Thru the gifts in the Lord's name you give
Repent of all the first stones cast to kill
While your own self-righteousness lives**

Chorus **Prepare ye the way of the Lord
Prepare ye the way of the kingdom
Prepare ye the way
Prepare ye the way of the Lord**

**³The Word said repent and turn from your striving
Repent and turn from your hatred
Repent of the doctrines of men that divide
And tear like your wedding gown rends**

**⁴Walk in his love as newborn children
Walk in his love let the wedding gown mend
Walk in his love in humility
Come with pure hearts**

**⁵The Word of the Lord came one evening
Concerning his bride's great sin
He assured me we will be forgiven
And then let the marriage begin *chorus***

And cast down your cares to the wind *chorus*

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Affirmation of Faith

Let us join together to affirm our faith: **I believe in God, who has created all life and continues to create new life within me. I believe in Jesus of Nazareth, the son of a carpenter, who was born to Mary through a miracle of God. He is the Word made flesh, who came to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and to proclaim Jesus, the hope of the world.**

Prayers of God's People

Confession

Gracious God, stay with us in this time of waiting. We do not know where this journey will lead, and we are afraid to follow where you lead us. Give us faith to see your light is shining on a darkened world. Teach us to be bearers of your love and peace.

Forgiveness

God loves us and leads us toward a new and better life. When we open our hearts and ask for a new start, God will give us a chance to begin the journey again. **Thanks be to God!**

We Share God's Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying "The Peace of the Lord be with you"

Holy Communion

We declare Jesus is the Messiah and we come to his table of grace. **Jesus is the true gift of love from God.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (contemporary form)

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Pastoral blessing for children and those not receiving communion.

Come to the Lord's Table

All who seek the presence of Jesus Christ at God's table of grace are welcome to receive God's forgiveness in Holy Communion. We will be using Fellowship Cups for communion today. They contain a wafer packaged on top of a small cup of grape juice and will be distributed to the congregation by the ushers after being blessed on the altar. We will all partake of communion together once all the cups have been distributed. Please discard your used cup in the buckets as the ushers collect them.. There are gluten free wafers available – please let the usher know if you need one.

Sharing of Holy Communion

Body of Christ, given for you.

Blood of Christ, shed for you.

Following Communion: Blessing and Prayer

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Let us pray... Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor ✠ and give you peace. **Amen**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel

That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear

Chorus **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

O Come blest Dayspring come and cheer our spirits by your advent here

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Bridge **Be exalted O God and let your glory reign! repeat**

Let it reign! Let it reign! Let it reign! repeat

We Go Out To Serve

Go in Peace, serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**