

---

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**December 7, 2025**

**Opening Hymn #69**  
***Arise, Sons of the Kingdom***

1. Arise, sons of the Kingdom!  
The King is drawing nigh;  
Arise and hail with gladness  
The Ruler from on high.  
Ye Christians, hasten forth!  
Your praise and homage bring Him  
And glad hosannas sing Him;  
Naught else your love is worth.

2. Arise, ye drooping mourners!  
The King is very near;  
Away with grief and sorrow!  
For, lo, your Help is here.  
Behold, in many a place --  
Oh, blessed consolation! --  
You find Him, your Salvation,  
Within His means of grace.

3. Arise, ye much afflicted!  
The King is not afar.  
Rejoice, ye long dejected,  
Behold the Morning Star!  
The Lord will give you joy;  
Though troubles now distress you,  
With comfort He will bless you,  
E'en death will He destroy.

4. Arise, ye poor and needy!  
The King provides for you;

He comes with succor speedy,  
With mercy ever new.  
Receive your gracious King,  
The Giver of all blessing,  
Hail Him, His name confessing,  
And glad hosannas sing.

5. Be righteous, ye His subjects,  
The King is just and true;  
Prepare for Him a highway,  
Make all things straight and new.  
For, lo, He means it well;  
Then willing bear the crosses  
That He Himself imposes,  
Nor let your courage fail.

6. Oh, rich the gifts Thou bringest,  
Thyself made poor and weak!  
O Love beyond expression,  
That thus can sinners seek!  
For this, O Lord, will we  
Our joyous tribute bring Thee  
And glad hosannas sing Thee  
And ever grateful be.

### **Invocation**

**P:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my**

**Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**P:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen**

## **Lighting of the Advent Candles**

### **Advent 2**

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

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

**P:** *We hear his call to repent.*

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

**P:** *Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.*

**C:** **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

*Two Advent candles are lit.*

The Bethlehem Candle is symbolic of the preparations being made to receive and to cradle the Christ-Child. [Is. 40:1-11]

(To the Tune of "Away in a Manger")

**This world sits in darkness,  
Nor cares for the light,  
In sin we were wandering,  
And cold was the night.  
Let all who've discovered  
The light of God's face  
Repent, be delivered  
By God's saving grace.  
Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray...

... through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

### **The First Lesson – Isaiah 11:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

### **Psalm of the Day – Psalm 72** **WS p. 32**

*Antiphon - Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Great are the works of the Lord.*

Give the king your justice, | O God,\*  
**and your righteousness to the | royal son!**

May he judge your people with | righteousness,\*

**and your poor with | justice!**

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the | people,\*

**and the hills, in | righteousness!**

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give

deliverance to the children of the | needy,\*

**and crush the op- | pressor!**

May they fear you while the | sun endures,\*

**and as long as the moon, throughout all gener- | ations!**

May he be like rain that falls on the | mown grass,\*

**like showers that wa- | ter the earth!**

In his days may the righteous | flourish,\*

**and peace abound, till the moon | be no more!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Antiphon - Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Great are the works of the Lord.*

## **The Second Lesson – Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." <sup>10</sup>And

again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." <sup>11</sup>And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." <sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

### **Verse of the Day – Luke 3:4b, 6**

Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

### **The Gospel – Matthew 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" <sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P: Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it.

### **The Alleluia – sing**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**These words are written that we may believe**

**That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Confession of Faith – Nicene Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**Maker of heaven and earth**

**And of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
Begotten of His Father before all worlds,**

**God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,**

**Begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father,**

**By whom all things were made;**

**Who for us men and for our salvation**

**Came down from heaven**

**And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary**

**And was made man;**

**And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again**

**According to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven**

**And sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge**

**Both the living and the dead,**

**Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**The Lord and giver of life,**

**Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**Who with the Father and the Son together**

**Is worshipped and glorified,**

**Who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
And I look for the resurrection of the dead  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day #63**

***On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry***

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Come, then, and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings from the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed by ev'ry Christian breast  
And furnished for so great a Guest.  
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.
3. For Thou art our Salvation, Lord,  
Our Refuge, and our great Reward.  
Without Thy grace our souls must fade  
And wither like a flower decayed.
4. Lay on the sick Thy healing hand  
And make the fallen strong to stand;  
Show us the glory of Thy face  
Till beauty springs in every place.
5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee  
Whose advent sets Thy people free,  
Whom, with the Father, we adore  
And Holy Ghost forevermore.

**Sermon Text – Isaiah 11:1-10**

**Sermon**

***By the Preaching of Repentance, We Are Prepared for the  
Coming of the Lord***



## **Offertory**

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. [Refrain]

## **Offering of Thankful Hearts**

### **Prayer of the Church**

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

P: Merciful God, You remember Your covenant forever, for a thousand generations. Teach us to remember Your wondrous works and seek Your strength and presence continually.

### **1. Let all together praise our God**

**Before His glorious throne;**

**Today He opens heav'n again**

**To give us His own Son,**

**To give us His own Son.**

P: Almighty God, You preserved Jesse's faithful line by the incarnation of Your Son. Give families and individuals strength to faithfully fulfill their vocations to love and forgive one another, that we may be trained up in Your fear, love and trust.

### **2. He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,**

**Is born an infant small,**

**And in a manger, poor and lone,**

**Lies in a humble stall,**

**Lies in a humble stall.**

P: O Lord, the voice of Your prophet broke the silence to prepare the way for Your Son. Give Your people the courage to speak Christ to the nations and teach those still in darkness and death about His gift of light and life. Keep us from being ashamed of the Gospel or intimidated by the opinions of others.

### **3. Within an earthborn form He hides**

**His all-creating light;  
To serve us all He humbly cloaks  
The splendor of His might,  
The splendor of His might.**

P: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, and make ready the way of Your only begotten Son, who comes to us this day in His true body and precious blood for the forgiveness of our sins. May all who feast upon Him do so in repentance and faith.

**4. He undertakes a great exchange,  
Puts on our human frame,  
An in return gives us His realm,  
His glory, and His name,  
His glory, and His name.**

P: Gracious Father, You give Your Word to the Church for encouragement and instruction in endurance. Continue to instruct us by Your Word, that we may abound in hope.

**5. He is a servant, I a lord;  
How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
No truer friend than He,  
No truer friend than He.**

P: Holy God, St. John spoke the promise of healing to the broken and wounded. Give to all afflicted in body or mind the riches of Your grace, healing according to Your will, and grace to carry them through the day of their trouble. [*We pray especially for* \_\_\_\_\_].

**6. He is the key and He the door  
To bless-ed paradise;  
The angel bars the way no more;  
To God our praises rise,  
To God our praises rise.**

P: Merciful Lord, Your Son rules over creation with justice and righteousness. Endow those in authority with the desire and ability

to protect the innocent, punish the wicked and work for the common welfare. ***\*please stand\****

**7. Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield  
And Spirit evermore;  
We praise You evermore.**

P: O Lord God, heavenly Father, grant us all things needful and keep from us all things harmful to us and to our salvation, that with confidence in Your will, we may say “amen” to our prayers and live in contentment and peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **The Service of the Sacrament**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...

*(the appropriate Preface is read)*

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth, adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim  
shout the glory of your name.  
Sing hosana in the highest, sing hosana to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

## **Words of Institution**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**O lamb of God, O Christ our Lord,  
Whose blood, once shed, true life restored,  
Impart Your joy, our faith increase.  
Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your peace.**

## **Distribution**

### **Nunc Dimittis**

1. O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

2. All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three-in-One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

## **Thanksgiving**

**My heart has now become Your dwelling,  
O blessed, holy Trinity.  
With angels I, Your praises telling,  
Shall live in joy eternally.  
Lord, may Your body and Your blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!**

### **The Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C: Amen**

### **Closing Hymn #645**

#### ***Behold, a Branch is Growing***

1. Behold a branch is growing  
As of loveliest form and grace,  
As prophets sung, foreknowing;  
It springs from Jesse's race  
And bears one little Flower  
In midst of coldest winter,  
At deepest midnight hour.

2. Isaiah hath foretold It  
In words of promise sure,  
And Mary' s arms enfold It,  
A virgin meek and pure.  
Through God's eternal will  
This Child to her is given  
At midnight calm and still.

3. The shepherds heard the story,  
Proclaimed by angels bright,  
How Christ, the Lord of Glory,  
Was born on earth this night.

To Bethlehem they sped  
And in the manger found him,  
As angel heralds said.

4. This Flower, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor  
The darkness everywhere.  
True Man, yet very God;  
From sin and death He saves us  
And lightens every load.

5. O Savior, Child of Mary,  
Who felt our human woe;  
Savior, King of Glory.  
Who dost our weakness know,  
Bring us at length, we pray.  
To the bright courts of heaven  
And to the endless day.

## **Silent Prayer**

*All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*Psalm from LSB ©2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. License #000014283*

*Prayer of the Church - Text Sts. 1, 3-7 © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn 389 License #100014283.*