



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday in Advent Worship
December 7, 2025 9:30am

REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER HIS SANCTURARY, PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH THIS WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit."

Isaiah 11:1

ADVENT
LONGING FOR JESUS

Risen Christ Lutheran Church
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ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – For many Christian people, reading the Word of our Lord from a “red letter” edition of the Bible is a special blessing. Seeing the words of Christ highlighted in a special color may make them more immediate and noticeable. The last sentence with red words in those Bible editions is Revelation 22:20, in which the Lord promises: “Surely I am coming soon.” John, the writer of Revelation, follows with these inspired words: “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” Those words became part of the worship life for many in the Early Church as they expectantly awaited the return of the Lord to the earth and the completion of His promised eternal kingdom. In the season of Advent, we echo that ancient yearning cry: “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!”

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Psalm 80:1, 3, 14a, 17; 40:1, 3a

I In the name of the Father and of the **C** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

P Amen.

I Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a inquire! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

P Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

I Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see.

P But let Your hand be on the man of Your right hand, the son of man whom You have made strong for Yourself!

- II I waited patiently for the LORD; He inclined to me and heard my cry.
 P **He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.**

Here I Am to Worship

1. Light of the world
 You stepped down into darkness
 Opened my eyes let me see
 Beauty that made
 This heart adore You
 Hope of a life spent with You **CHORUS**

2. King of all days
 Oh so highly exalted
 Glorious in heaven above
 Humbly You came
 To the earth You created
 All for love's sake became poor **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: So here I am to worship
 Here I am to bow down
 Here I am to say that You're my God
 And You're altogether lovely
 Altogether worthy
 Altogether wonderful to me**

**BRIDGE: And I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross
 And I'll never know how much it cost
 To see my sin upon that cross **CHORUS****

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Confession and Absolution

- II O God, our Father, You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.
- P **Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. We acknowledge our sinful nature and confess our sinful thoughts, words, and deed. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.**
- II Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **C** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- P **Amen.**
- II Now 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. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in **C** peace.
- P **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3

- P **A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."**

MEN – *Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually!*

WOMEN – *Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered, O offspring of Abraham, His servant, children of Jacob, His chosen ones!*

MEN – *He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth.*

WOMEN – *He remembers His covenant forever, the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.*

P **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.**

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

II The Lord be with you.

P **And also with you.**

II Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **P** **Amen.**

During the singing of the hymn, two candles on the Advent wreath are lighted.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, And
ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. **REFRAIN**

REFRAIN: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel
Shall come to thee,
O Israel!

2 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. **REFRAIN**

3 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
REFRAIN

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1–10

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

²And 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.

³And 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,

⁴but 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.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The 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.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They 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.

¹⁰In 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.

I This is the Word of the Lord. **P** Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7

Psalm 72:1-7

☩ Give the king Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to the royal son!

MEN – *May He judge Your people with righteousness, and Your poor with justice!*

WOMEN – *Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!*

MEN – *May He defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!*

WOMEN – *May they fear You while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!*

MEN – *May He be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!*

WOMEN – *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 beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

⁸For 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, ⁹and 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."

¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

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

¹²And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May 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.

☩ This is the Word of the Lord. **☩ Thanks be to God.**

Gradual and Verse

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.; Luke 3:4b, 6

☩ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

MEN – *Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.*

WOMEN – *Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless You.*

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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

☩ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

☩ Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For 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.'"

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But 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? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And 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. ¹⁰Even 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.

¹¹"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. ¹²His 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."

II This is the Gospel of the Lord. P **Praise to You, O Christ.**

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 △ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in; And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Sermon – "God's Promised Kingdom of Peace is Here and Now"

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, 6 Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind, To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Creed

The Second Article

- II In the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, echoing the proclamation of John the Baptist, we confess Jesus to be the Savior, the One who fulfills God's promises.
- P **I believe 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.**
- II What does this mean?
- P **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.**

Regular Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

“Mary Did You Know” sung by Esther Kaufmann

Prayer of the Church

- II Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs.

Come, O Lord, among us, that as people united in faith, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus. With hope we pray: **P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

II Come, O Lord, with Your presence on earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule there be times of peace. Come to our nation, that we find joy in that which is done through it by the leaders and by the people. With hope we pray: **P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

II Come, O Lord, and walk beside us that Your love and blessing be evident in all that we say and do. With hope we pray: **P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

II Come, O Lord, and bring Your response to the special concerns on our hearts today, including health and family needs and situations that are part of life, [*including . . .*]. With hope we pray:
P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

II For all those who have completed their earthly journey in faith and now rest from their labors in eternal peace and joy, serving as witnesses of Your never-ending care, we bless You, O Lord, and ask that we also be numbered with the saints in glory everlasting. With hope we pray:
P Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

II Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **P Amen.**

**P 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.**

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

1. 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 every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

2. 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.

***ENDING: By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.***

Benediction

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