

## The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

*The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.*

**Prelude: "All I Am"** Mallory Wickham | Phil Wickham CCLI Song # 5989867

### Opening Song: "Here I Am to Worship"

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

***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

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

***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

And I'll never know  
How much it cost  
To see my sin  
upon that cross

No I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross

***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

***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

## Welcome

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.

Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,

**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**

**We have strayed from your paths.**

**We prepare for war instead of peace.**

**We dishonor one another and your creation.**

**Purify us with your refining fire**

**and set us again on your way of love,**

**that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,**

**and welcome your coming among us.**

**Amen.**

People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on ✠ Christ, and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen.**

### Psalm: *Psalm 122*

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." (Ps. 122:1)*

<sup>1</sup>I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

<sup>2</sup>**Now our feet are standing**

**within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

<sup>3</sup>Jerusalem is built as a city

that is at unity with itself;

<sup>4</sup>**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,**

**the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>For there are the thrones of judgment,

the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup>**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**

“May they prosper who love you.

<sup>7</sup>Peace be within your walls

**and quietness within your towers.**

<sup>8</sup>For the sake of my kindred and companions,

**I pray for your prosperity.**

<sup>9</sup>Because of the house of the Lord our God,  
**I will seek to do you good.”**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

### **Song: “O Come Emmanuel”** Verse 1

O come O come Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

***Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel***

John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore  
© Words: Public Domain, Music: Public Domain  
CCLI Song # 31982

### **First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5**

*The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: “Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!”*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>In days to come  
the mountain of the Lord’s house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

<sup>3</sup>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 instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
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 any more.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44**

*Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.<sup>37</sup> For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.<sup>38</sup> For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark,<sup>39</sup> and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.<sup>40</sup> Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.<sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.<sup>42</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.<sup>43</sup> But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.<sup>44</sup> Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Message**

### **Song of the Day: “10,000 Reasons”**

#### ***Chorus***

Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Worship His holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up  
it's a new day dawning;  
It's time to sing Your song again  
Whatever may pass  
and whatever lies before me;  
Let me be singing  
when the evening comes

#### **\*\*Chorus**

You're rich in love  
and You're slow to anger;  
Your name is great  
and Your heart is kind  
For all Your goodness

I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons  
for my heart to find

#### **\*\*Chorus**

And on that day  
when my strength is failing;  
The end draws near  
and my time has come  
Still my soul will sing  
Your praise unending;  
Ten thousand years  
and then forevermore

#### **\*\*Chorus 2x**

Yes, I will worship Your holy name  
Lord I'll worship Your holy name

## Confession of Faith

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## Prayers

*Each petition ends, God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

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

## Offering Prayer

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### Invitation to Communion

Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, who has come to save you.

### Distribution

*You are invited to come forward to receive the elements. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available.*

## **Communion Song: “All Who Are Thirsty”**

All who are thirsty  
All who are weak  
Come to the fountain  
Dip your heart in the stream of life

Let the pain and the sorrow  
Be washed away  
In the waves of His mercy  
As deep cries out to deep

**Come Lord Jesus, come**  
**Come Lord Jesus, come**

All who are thirsty  
All who are weak  
Come to the fountain  
Dip your heart in the stream of life

Let the pain and the sorrow  
Be washed away  
In the waves of His mercy  
As deep cries out to deep

**Come Lord Jesus, come**  
**Come Lord Jesus, come**  
*Repeat*

As deep cries out to deep  
As deep cries out to deep  
As deep cries out to deep

**Holy Spirit, come**  
**Holy Spirit, come**  
*Repeat*

CCLI Song # 2489542  
Brenton Brown | Glenn Robertson

## **Prayer after Communion**

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Announcements**

## **Sending Song: “May the Grace”**

May the grace of Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Spirit  
be with us.

***Repeat***

The Lord bless us and keep us,  
his face shine upon us,  
his grace and his peace rest on us.

***Repeat***

The Lord bless us and keep us,

his face shine upon us,  
his grace and his peace rest on us.

***Repeat***

May the grace of Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Spirit  
be with us.

Mark Bradford © Mark Bradford / Resound  
Worship, Administered by Jubilate Hymns td  
copyrightmanager@jubilatehymns.co.uk  
CCL# 708823

## **Blessing**

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending**

Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: “All I Am”** Mallory Wickham | Phil Wickham CCLI Song # 5989867

Copyright Information: Liturgical texts from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB168575.. Some excerpts from Rev. Ann B. Day. Originally published in *Shaping Sanctuary*.

## **Also assigned for this week:**

### **Romans 13:11-14**

*Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.*

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.