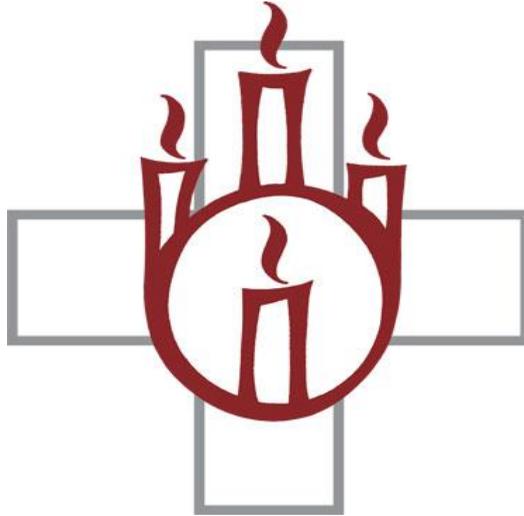


# Mid-Week Two Advent Service

*December 9, 2020*



## ***Welcome to ASCENSION!***

*We are delighted to have you with us today. That we may know you better, please sign the Guest Registry in the Narthex and introduce yourself to the Pastor after the service. May God bless you with the assurance of His forgiveness, life, and salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you, and ... Peace be with you!*



**Rev. James D. Gier, Senior Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. Gary Zieroth, Assistant Pastor**  
**Rev. Tom Zimmerman, Visitation Pastor**  
**Rev. Dr. John Stube, Pastor Emeritus**  
**Mr. Paul Marinko, Interim Principal**

**ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL**  
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**Office 260.486.2226 ✘ Email [office@alcsfw.org](mailto:office@alcsfw.org) ✘ [www.alcsfw.org](http://www.alcsfw.org)**

**Organist** ✕ Paul Marinko

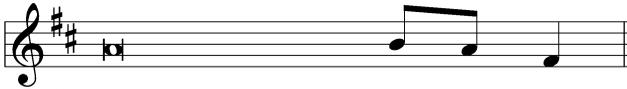
*Prelude* ~ "Savior of the Nations Come" ~ Burkhardt

*Postlude* ~ "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" ~ Callahan

+ **Vespers** +



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

## Psalmody

### Psalm

*Psalm 85*



<sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable | to your land; \*  
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your | people; \*  
you covered | all their sin.

<sup>3</sup>You withdrew | all your wrath; \*  
you turned from your hot | anger.

**<sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,\*  
and put away your indignation | toward us!**

<sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us for- | ever?\*

Will you prolong your anger to all gener- | ations?

**<sup>6</sup>Will you not revive | us again,\*  
that your people may re- | joice in you?**

<sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,\*  
and grant us your sal- | vation.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,\*  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to | folly.**

<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,\*  
that glory may dwell | in our land.

**<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;\*  
righteousness and peace kiss each | other.**

<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,\*  
and righteousness looks down | from the sky.

**<sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,\*  
and our land will yield its | increase.**

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go be- | fore him\*  
and make his foot- | steps a way.

**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.**

## 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly  
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,  
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send  
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,  
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—  
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
That, set free from doubt and dread,  
I may cling to You in faith,  
Safely kept through life and death.

Tune and text: Public domain

6 Then when You will come again  
As the glorious king to reign,  
I with joy will see Your face,  
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

### ***Genesis 22:1–18***

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>2</sup>He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” <sup>12</sup>He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup>And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

### ***Hebrews 11:17–22***

<sup>17</sup>By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, <sup>18</sup>of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>19</sup>He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. <sup>20</sup>By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. <sup>21</sup>By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. <sup>22</sup>By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.



I He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the  
imagination of their hearts. II He has cast down the  
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.

I He has filled the hun - gry with good things,  
and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.

II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy  
as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.

C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir-it;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev - er. A-men.

## Prayer

## Kyrie

LSB 233

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

## Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

**P** 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.

## Collect for Peace

**L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

*LSB 234*



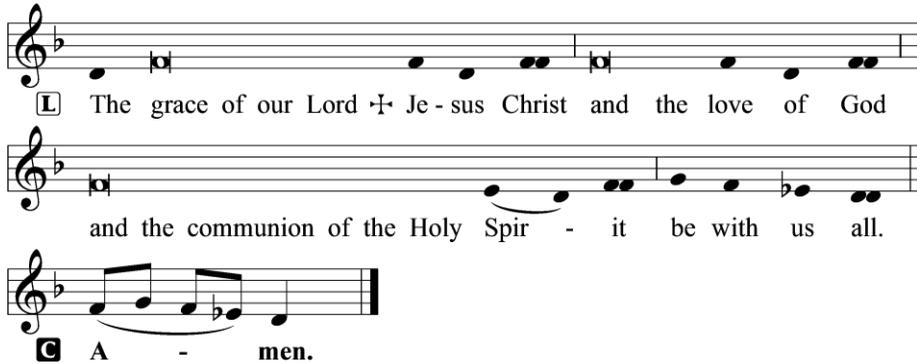
**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

# Benediction

LSB 234



**L** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God  
and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with us all.

**G** A - men.

# 353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from  
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are  
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of  
4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our  
realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,  
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer  
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,  
hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,  
Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!  
To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

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## Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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