

# ADVENT

**The Second Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 10, 2023



**TODAY'S OFFERING OF WORSHIP  
THIS SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*We gather together...*

**CHORAL INTROIT:** *Advent Processional (Come, O Rose)*

Daniel Greig

*We will keep our eyes fixed on Jesus till He comes again. We will wait on Him, wait with hope till He comes again.*

*Come, O Rose of Sharon, come, O Prince of Peace. Come, O Rose of Sharon, come, Emmanuel.*

*We will reach our hands out in service till He comes again. We will dry the dears of one another till He comes again!*

*Come, O Rose of Sharon, come, O Prince of Peace. Come, O Rose of Sharon, come, Emmanuel.*

*O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

**LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE:** *Carl and Beth Anderson family*

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Malachi 3:1-4)*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me,  
and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.  
The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—  
indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

**But who can endure the day of his coming,  
and who can stand when he appears?**

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap;  
he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,  
and he will purify the descendants of Levi  
and refine them like gold and silver,  
until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness.

**Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing  
to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.**

The messenger of the Lord has come in Christ.

**In Christ, we present offerings to the Lord in righteousness!  
Thanks be to God for God's lavish grace!**

**\*HYMN #122: O Zion Acclaim Your Redeemer**

**\*INVOCATION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

...to hear God's Word...

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11 (*Old Testament page 667*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Amen.**

## PSALM

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13 (*Old Testament pages 543-544*) **Amen.**

## SECOND LESSON

2 Peter 3:8-15a (*New Testament page 238*)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Amen.**

## \*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:1-8 (*New Testament page 34*)

The Gospel of our Lord, God's living Word. **Thanks be to God.**

## CONFESSION (*based on Isaiah 60:1-3*)

Arise, shine: for your light has come.

**O God, we live as if the light  
had never defeated the darkness in the world or in us.**

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**We confess that we ignore the Christ  
you sent to be among us, to be in us.**

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

**We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season  
and do not yearn for his birth each moment in our waiting hearts.**

And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

**Lord, you came to us in the fullness of time.**

**Forgive us for not opening our eyes to your coming.**

**It's time that we prepare for your coming.**

**Let the earth ring with song. Let the light break forth.**

**Let us all rejoice in the miracle of love.**

**Let Christ come into the fullness of our time. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The good news of our Advent season is forgiveness of sin and new life.  
Let us commit our lives to Christ's way of hope and peace.

**Thanks be to our Advent God, who comes among us,  
setting us free to love and serve.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

\*HYMN #133: *On Jordan's Banks*

SERMON: *Lauren St. Martin*

*...and to respond with our lives...*

HYMN #390: *Through Our Fragmentary Prayers*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERINGS TO GOD

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### OFFERING

#### \*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*...in the places we now go.*

\*HYMN #136: *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers!*

\*BENEDICTION *(for Advent from Isaiah 42:1-9)*

Hear the words of the prophet Isaiah, "See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them." Go forth now with the assurance of God's saving acts in the past, and the promise of redeeming works yet to come. Go live into this hope through the love, justice, and mercy that comes from new life in Christ. Go out in this confidence and faith, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**ALL: AMEN.**

POSTLUDE: *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (BWV 645)*

*J.S. Bach*

*Join us after the service for coffee and conversation,  
in the Narthex.*

*Welcome!*

GREETER: Tom LaPaze

READERS: Jane and Dawn Leach

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Elaine Johnson

USHER: Sandy Larsen

COFFEE SERVERS: Rich and Deeann Puffert

LIVESTREAM: Signe Blomgren

