

# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | West Bend, WI

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

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## SERVICE OF THE WORD

November 28 & 29, 2020

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WELCOME – ADVENT 1

### GATHERING RITE ON THE WORD OF GOD

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

C: (♪) Blessed Jesus, at your Word, We are gathered all to hear you.

Let our hearts and souls be stirred, Now to seek and love and fear you,  
By your teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love you solely.

M: Oh, how I love your law!

C: I meditate on it all day long.

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

C: for they are ever with me.

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: for I meditate on your statutes.

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: sweeter than honey to my mouth!

(Psalm 119:97-99,103)

C: (♪) All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded

Till your Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.  
You alone to God can win us; You must work all good within us.

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

(2 Timothy 3:16,17)

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

C: (♪) Gracious Savior, good and kind, Light from Light, from God proceeding,

Open now our heart and mind; Help us by your Spirit's pleading.

Hear the cry your people raises; Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

M: God gave his Word so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

C: (♪) Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Praise to you and adoration!

Grant that we your Word may trust, Confident of our salvation,

While we here below must wander, Till we sing your praises yonder.

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ † and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: 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.
- M: 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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M: Let us pray.  
Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: ( ♪ ) Amen.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES - ADVENT 1

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

**C: We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.**

M: We hear his call to watch.

**C: We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

One Advent candle is lit.

[Sung to the tune of Away In A Manger]

Prepare for Christ's coming, Keep watch through the night.  
We light one small candle And cherish the light.  
Give hope to the hopeless, Give comfort and peace.  
Trust in the Lord's promise That darkness shall cease.

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 63:16b-17; 64:1-8

But you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us or Israel acknowledge us; you, Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name. <sup>17</sup> Why, Lord, do you make us wander from your ways and harden our hearts so we do not revere you? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes that are your inheritance.

<sup>1</sup> Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! <sup>2</sup> As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! <sup>3</sup> For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

<sup>4</sup> Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. <sup>5</sup> You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? <sup>6</sup> All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. <sup>7</sup> No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins. <sup>8</sup> Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter;

we are all the work of your hand. (NIV ®)

### PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 24

Refrain

O - pen wide your gates; Let the King of Glo - ry in!

O - pen wide your gates; Let the King of Glo - ry in!

Choir: *Refrain*

Cong: *Refrain*

Choir: All the earth is yours, O God, the world and those who dwell on it.  
You have founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Cong: *Refrain*

Choir: Who can ascend your mountain, God? Or who may stand in this holy place?  
Those whose hands are sinless, hearts are clean, and desire not the vanity of earth.

Cong: *Refrain*

Choir: They shall receive your blessing, God, their Savior shall reward them.  
Such is the face that seeks for you, that seeks your face, O God of Jacob.

Cong: *Refrain*

## SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup>For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— <sup>6</sup>God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. <sup>7</sup>Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. <sup>8</sup>He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (NIV ®)

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Revelation 22:20

**C:** Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**C:** Al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

Mark 13:32-37

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. <sup>34</sup>It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. <sup>35</sup>"Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. <sup>36</sup>If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup>What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'" (NIV ®)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (♪) Praise be to you, O Christ!

## HYMN OF THE DAY

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates | Christian Worship 4 v. 1-4

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.  
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.  
Life and salvation he will bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.  
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.

The King is born in poverty, His chariot is humility,  
His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.  
The end of all our woe he brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.  
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.

How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed!  
O peaceful hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!  
The cloudless sun of joy is he Who comes to set his people free.  
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart  
From earthly use for heaven's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.  
So shall your Sov'reign enter in And new and nobler life begin.  
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!

#### SERMON

*Psalm 24:9-10*

Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.  
<sup>10</sup> Who is he, this King of glory? he LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

The City of the King

#### APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING – Please deposit your offering in the offering box in the narthex.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### HYMN

The Advent of Our King | Christian Worship 1

The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,  
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be,  
Himself a servant's form puts on To set his servants free.

O Zion's Daughter, rise To met your lowly King,  
Nor let a faithless heart despise The peace he comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again  
And his true members all unite With him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning Day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.

All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ( ♪ ) Amen.

#### BLESSING

Numbers 6:24–27

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: ( ♪ ) Amen. Amen. Amen.

#### CLOSING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates | Christian Worship 4 v. 5

Redeemer, come! I open wide My heart to you; here, Lord, abide!  
Oh, enter with your saving grace; Show me your kind and friendly face.  
Your Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won.  
Eternal praise and fame We offer to your name.