

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2017, 10:00am



Please take a moment to silence your cellphone. Thank you.

Purple was the traditional color of Advent, a color that represents penitence and fasting, as well, as royalty.

Purple will continue to be the traditional color of Lent. But for Advent, we shall use deep blue, as other churches have come to do, because deep blue represents the Advent themes of expectation, hope and anticipation of the dawn of Christ. It is the color in the sky before the sun rises, encouraging us to keep watch for the promised light of Christ to break over the horizon, changing night into day. The use of blue has deep historical roots.

The origins of the Advent wreath are found in the folk practices of the pre-Christian Germanic peoples who, during the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, gathered wreaths of evergreen and lighted fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light. Christians kept these popular traditions alive to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. Traditionally, the wreath is made of four blue or purple candles in a circle of evergreens, with a central white candle lit on Christmas Eve and Day. The meaning assigned to each candle varies by tradition.

The Word of God

Prelude: Es ist ein Ros entsprungen (A Lovely Rose is Blooming)

Johannes Brahms

Please STAND as able, and join in singing,

The Processional Hymn

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Hymn #57

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A † appears in the margin where you may wish to make the sign of the cross over your body. Making the sign of the cross is a choice left to each worshipper.

It is simply a way to engage your entire body (not just your speech and mind) in worship, and physically to signify embracing the blessing of God.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Sunday of Advent

A family steps forward, one reads, and after this prayer, a member lights the candle:

Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE.

The candle is lit.

"We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield." (Psalm 33:20)

People: **Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen.**

Let us pray together:

All **In you we find our true joy, O God. Let this Advent season be a time to become mindful and alert in service to your people. Open our minds, hearts and hands to receive your transforming grace. We pray through the Christ who is always coming among us. Amen.**

Celebrant: The Rev. Peter Huang

Deacon: The Rev. Laurel Coote

Preacher/Gospeller: The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic

The First Lesson Jeremiah 33:14-16

1st Reader A Reading from the Book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

1st Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Please remain seated, and join in singing,

The Response

Psalm 25

Marty Haugen



Paraphrase of Psalm 25. Words and Music by Marty Haugen. Used by permission.

Lord, make me know your ways, teach me your paths, and keep me in the way of your truth, for you are God, my Savior. (Refrain)

For the Lord is good and righteous, revealing his way to those who seek him, gently leading the poor and the humble. (Refrain)

To the ones who seek the Lord, who look to his Word, who live his love, he will always be near, he will show them his mercy. (Refrain)

The Second Lesson—1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

2nd Reader A Reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

2nd Reader The Word of the Lord.

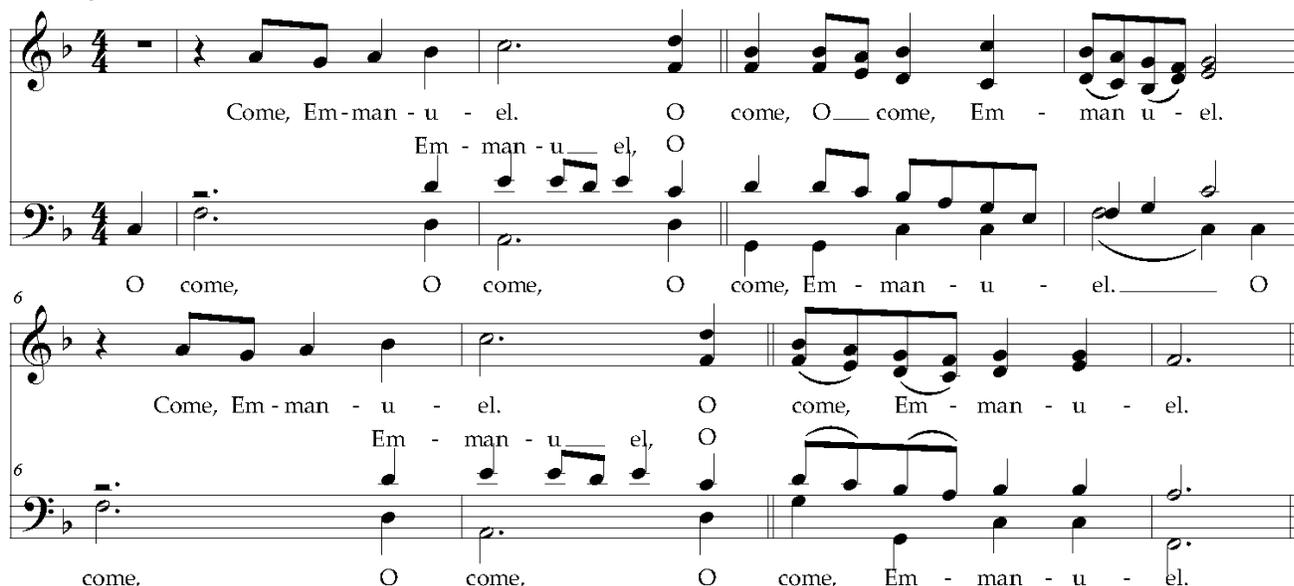
People Thanks be to God.

Please STAND, as able, and join in singing,

The Gospel Procession

Come, Emmanuel

Iona



Music © 1995 Wild Goose Resource Group. Used by permission OneLicense.net A-709118

The Holy Gospel—Luke 21:25-36

† Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please join in singing 'Come Emmanuel' as the procession returns.

Please remain seated for

† The Sermon

There will be a moment of silence for reflection following the sermon.

The Very Rev. Paula Vukmanic



Please STAND as able, and join in saying,
An Affirmation of Faith for Advent

Liturgy For The Whole Church, Susan K. Bock

We believe in God, who bends and kneels toward our world, drenching it with love, making it new with every breath. We believe in Jesus, God become human, who brought every person a spark of the divine. We believe in the Spirit, hovering God, present among us, abiding, upholding, awaking all things to her grace. We believe we are called to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God and each other, ready for God's reign, awake and alert, as we work to bring it near. We believe we are called, as Christmas comes close, to lift up our hearts in hope and in love, seeking God's advent in each moment and person, each challenge and heartache, each blessing and joy. This we promise to do. Keep us faithful, Lord Jesus, and come soon.

Come soon! Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The People join in reading the words in bold.

Our Advent prayers call upon God with our ancestors, the significant people of the Bible that led the way to the birth of Jesus.

God of the prophets, give your church courage to speak truth, and to tell of your love.

God of the prophets, hear us and help us!

God of the angels, give your church voice to sing your presence in the world. Give the world a freedom song, and help us to speak peace especially in all places of conflict in our world.

God of the angels, hear us and help us!

God of Mary and Elizabeth, give your church grace to bring forth new life into a world desperate for love, hope and opportunity for all.

God of our mothers, hear us and help us!

God of Zechariah and Joseph, give your church dreams and visions, and the courage to follow them.

God of our fathers, hear us and help us!

God of the shepherds, give your church humility, and to all who sit in darkness and anxiety, alone and afraid, light and peace.

God of the shepherds, hear us and help us!

God of the Magi, give your church gifts, and the will to find you among the poor and the marginalized.

God of the Magi, hear us and help us.

God of John the Baptist, give your church the grace to be a messenger of change and hope, to preach a message of love and peace in wilderness moments.

God of messengers, hear us and help us!

God of the Holy Innocents, give your church power to stand against violence and to protect the powerless.

For all first responders and members of the armed and foreign services and their families, especially Drew Deley, Kelly Hall, Mark Kappelmann, TJ Malzahn, Will Piepenbring, Scott Ruston, Michael Strong, Jonathan Zimmerman and Steve, and their families.

God of Peace, hear us and help us!

God of Healing, give hope in your promised coming, especially for those suffering in body, mind or spirit:

Andrea, Susie Allen, Stephanie Bezner, James Eakins, Ceri Falk, Amalia Fraker, Mary Louise Gordon, Sally Hill, Jake Madrid, Marjorie Morris, Munoz Family, James and Reiko, Anne Shepherd, Steve Smith and Phyllis Thomas, and all those we name to you now (*please add your own prayers, silently or aloud.*) We pray:

God of Healing, hear us and help us!

God of New Life, we pray for all who have died, especially those we name to you now (*please add your prayers, silently or aloud*)... that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

God of New Life, hear us and help us!

Let us pray together:

All In you we find our true joy, O God. Let this Advent season be a time to become mindful and alert in service to your people. Open our minds, hearts and hands to receive your transforming grace.

We pray through Jesus Christ who is always coming among us. Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Deacon Emmanuel, we want to believe you are with us dwelling in this and every moment,

People Yet we catch ourselves longing for the past and rushing toward the future.

Deacon We want to be found wide awake, alert with love, as you appear in this and every moment,

People Yet we often slumber through, and laze away the miracle of ordinary days.

Deacon We want to wait for you alone, and seek your will in all we do, with desire and hope,

People Yet sometimes our trust fails, our longing grows cold, and our hope dims.

Deacon We want to make room in our hearts, for you to be born again,

People Yet we say or do things that hardens our hearts to you and your people.

Deacon We confess our failure at missing the mark, of not loving from our highest self.

People We are sorry and we ask your forgiveness as we journey together in this Advent season recognizing our need for you.

✠ Celebrant May our Gracious God, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Please stand as able for

The Peace

Celebrant May the transforming peace of Jesus Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

The King Shall Come

Thomas Keesecker

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes. Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ, victorious rose and left the lonesome place of death, despite the rage of foes.

Oh, brighter than that glorious morn shall dawn upon our race the day when Christ in splendor comes, and we shall see his face.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings. Hail, Christ the Lord!

Your people pray; come quickly, King of kings.

Offertory Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

8 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence, and with fear and trem-bling stand; pon-der noth-ing
15 earth-ly—mind-ed, for with bless-ing in his—hand, Christ our God to earth de-
scend—eth, our full hom-age to de-mand.

Words from the Liturgy of St James. Music PICARDY 17th century French carol.

Please continue STANDING, as able, for
The Offertory Prayers

Celebrant Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which the earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven and the Cup of Salvation.

People Blessed be God forever.

Celebrant Receive, O Lord, these gifts presented by your holy people for the work of your holy Church.

People Blessed be God forever.

Please remain standing for,

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 2 from *Enriching Our Worship 1*, supplement to *The Book of Common Prayer*)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues. The People read the parts in bold.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; And yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

FOREST GREEN

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord, God of power and might. Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo-ry, Ho-
san - na in th high-est. Bless - ed is the One who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

FOREST GREEN Traditional English tune adapt by Ralph Vaughn Williams

All stand or kneel as the Celebrant continues. The People join in reading the text in bold.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: this is my Body, which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, **do this for the remembrance of me.**"

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with St Francis and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. AMEN.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Jesus Came, Adored By Angels

PICARDY

Je - sus came, a - dored by — an - gels, came with peace from realms on — high;
 7 Je - sus comes on clouds tri - um - phant, when the heav'ns shall pass a - way;

Je - sus came for our re - demp - tion, low - ly came on earth to — die. Al - le - lu - ia,
 14 Je - sus comes a - gain in — glo - ry; let us then our hom - age pay; Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - - - ia! came in deep hu - mi - li - ty.
 Al - le - lu - - - ia! 'til the dawn of end - less — day.

Words by Godfrey Thring (1823-1903) from Hymn #454 PICARDY 17th Century French Carol



The Communion of the People

All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Kneeling or standing, each person receives the Bread in the palm of the right hand, eats, and then guides the cup for a sip of the Wine. If you do not wish to receive or are not yet baptized, we encourage you to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply fold your hands across your chest when you come forward. The clergy will carry Communion to anyone in the congregation who is unable to come forward. Please notify an usher if you wish to be served in your seat.*

If you have come with a particular prayer concern today, after receiving Communion you may come to the Nason Prayer Chapel to the right of the altar rail where someone will be available to pray with you.

*Gluten-free Communion wafers are now carried alongside regular wafers at Holy Communion. If you require one of these, simply ask at the Altar rail.

Communion Music

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz

*Peace be to you, and grace from him who freed us from our sins, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.
Sing Holy Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come. Sing Holy, Holy Lord.
Rejoice in heaven all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon.
For Christ is coming soon. E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come and night shall be no more;
they need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, for Christ shall be their all.*

Post Communion Prayer for Advent

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Holy and eternal God, you have graciously fed us with the Body and Blood of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant Let us say together our Mission Statement:

All We welcome everyone to worship God together, to be transformed by the Holy Spirit and each other, and to share the light of Christ in the world. Amen.

A Blessing for the Advent Season



Celebrant May the dawn of Christ's coming be the joy of your strength. May the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; And may the blessings of God our Creator, Jesus our Redeemer, and the Spirit our Sustainer, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

Please STAND as able, and join in singing,

The Recessional Hymn

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

Hymn #601

The Sending Forth

Deacon Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

Postlude: Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes Sohn, BWV 601 (Lord Christ, the Only Son of God)

J.S. Bach

