

ORDER OF WORSHIP: MORNING PRAISE

[Based on pp. 109–119 in the black
hymnal—the Evangelical Lutheran
Hymnary (ELH)]

Call to Worship • Advent 1

[Psalm 13:5–6 (EHV)]

PASTOR: *Today we pray for God to come to us, His Church, just as He came in the past and will come again at the end. As we see the signs of His final coming, may He strengthen us through His Word and Sacraments to lift up our heads in joy while facing our earthly challenges.*

“To You, O LORD, I will lift up my soul. In you I have trusted, O my God. Do not let me be put to shame.

CONGREGATION: **Do not let my enemies triumph over me. All who hope in You will never be put to shame.”**

Hymn • “The New Church Year Again Is Come”

[text: ELH 93, alt.; tune: ELH 106]

1. The new church year again is come
And wakes the joy of Christendom;
Thy King, O Zion, comes to thee,
Rejoice, rejoice eternally.
2. Now in our midst anew are heard
The lessons of God’s holy Word
That lead the way to life and heav’n;
Lord, praise to Thee for this be giv’n.
3. Thy truth repeated o’er and o’er
Our faith will strengthen more and more;
Let it abide in us, that we
May join in endless praise to Thee.

-Stand-

Confession of Sin and Declaration of Forgiveness

☞ *Let us confess our sin to God and pray.*

☞ **Almighty God, heavenly Father: I have sinned against You through my own fault, in thought, word, and deed. For the sake of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me all my sin, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

☞ *Lift up your hearts! For the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, God has had mercy on you, forgiven you all your sin, and He will bring those who believe in Him to everlasting life at the end.*

Peace ☩ be with you.

Prayers from the Psalms

[Ps 51:15, Ps 70:1]

☞ *Let us pray to the Lord, using His Word to ask for His blessings.*

O Lord, we pray to You because You have purged away our sin by Your holy life, innocent death, and victorious resurrection. You alone have given us this new song of praise, and we ask You to strengthen us to sing it every day of our lives:

☞ **"O LORD, open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise."**

☞ *Gracious Father, as You have been our help in times past, we pray that You continue to stay with us in this life. Hear our prayers, and always give us Your loving answers.*

☞ **"Hurry, God! Rescue Me! Lord, hurry to help me!"**

☞ *We pray this confident that You will hear and answer us, because You are the one, true and living God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

☞ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning is now and will be forevermore. Amen.**

Song of Praise • "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"

[ELH 128]

1. Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing,
Worthy folk of Christendom.

2. Sin and death may well be groaning,
Satan now may well be moaning;
We, our full salvation owning,
Cast our ev'ry care away.

7. O the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing
And to Thee we come confessing
That our freedom Thou hast wrought.

Prayer of the Day • Advent 1

☞ *Let us pray:*

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come to us. As we await Your final advent, we fervently ask You to keep us in Your Word and Sacrament through these challenging days so that we will not be weighed down with the empty pleasures and hopeless worries of this life. Instead, strengthen us to watch and pray so that we may joyfully await the glorious coming of Your Son at the end.

☞ **We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our living Lord, who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.**

-Be seated-

First Lesson • Malachi 4:1–6



Jesus' final advent (coming) is Judgment Day which will be "burning like a furnace" for this sinful world. But He promises one greater than Elijah (Jesus) will "turn the hearts" of His faithful people.

Look! The day is coming, burning like a blast furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble. The day that is coming will set them on fire, says the Lord of Armies, a day that will not leave behind a root or branch for them. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will rise, and there will be healing in its wings. You will go out and jump around like calves from the stall. ³You will trample the wicked. They will surely be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I take action, says the Lord of Armies.

⁴Remember the law of my servant Moses, which I commanded to him at Horeb to serve as statutes and judgments over all Israel.

⁵Look! I am going to send Elijah the prophet to you before the great and fearful day of the Lord comes! ⁶He will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers. Otherwise, I will come and strike the land with complete destruction. (EHV)

Ⓟ *This is the Word of our Lord.*

🔊 **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day • Advent 1

[Psalm 25:1–3a, 4–5 (EHV)]

Ⓟ *To you, O LORD, I will lift up my soul.*

🔊 **In you I have trusted, O my God.**

Ⓟ *Do not let me be put to shame.*

🔊 **Do not let my enemies triumph over me.**

Ⓟ *Make known to me your ways, O LORD. Teach me your paths.*

🔊 **Make me walk in your truth and teach me.**

Ⓟ *Because you are the God who saves me.*

🔊 **In you I hope all day long.**

🔊 **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forevermore. Amen.**

Second Lesson • Romans 15:4–13



While we wait for Jesus' final advent, we can have "patient endurance" and "rejoicing" because of God's gift of faith through the Holy Spirit.

Indeed, whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that, through patient endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we would have hope. ⁵And may God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that with one mind, in one voice, you

may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷For this reason, accept one another as Christ also accepted you to the glory of God.

⁸For I am saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for the sake of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs. ⁹He also did this so that the Gentiles would glorify God for his mercy, as it is written:

For this reason I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and I will sing to your name. (*Psalms 18:49*)

¹⁰And again it says:

Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people. (*Deuteronomy 32:43*)

¹¹And again:

Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples give him praise. (*Psalms 117:1*)

¹²And again Isaiah says:

There will be a Root of Jesse,
and he is the one who will rise up to rule the Gentiles;
on him the Gentiles will place their hope. (*Isaiah 11:10*)

¹³Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (EHV)

[P] *This is the Word of our Lord.*

[G] Thanks be to God.

-Stand-

Gospel Acclamation • Psalm 85:7

[P] *Alleluia! Alleluia! Show us Your mercy, O LORD and give us your salvation.*

[G] Alleluia!

Gospel • Luke 21:25–36

Jesus reminds us all the signs for His final advent (coming) have already been fulfilled. Therefore it is especially important that believers “stay alert” by reading and following God’s Word because it “will never pass away.”

[Jesus says:] “There will be signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And on the earth nations will be in anguish, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the surging waves, ²⁶people fainting from fear and expectation of the things coming on the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸But when these things begin to happen, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near.”

²⁹He told them a parable. “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they are sprouting leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is actually near. ³¹So also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Amen I tell you: This generation will not pass away until all these things happen. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁴“Watch yourselves or else your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and the worries of this life, and that day may come on you suddenly. ³⁵For it will come like a trap on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Stay alert all the time, praying that you may be able to escape all these things that are going to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.” (EHV)

☞ *This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

📖 **Thanks be to God.**

-Be seated-

Hymn • “Savior of the Nations, Come”

[ELH 90]

**1. Savior of the nations, come;
Virgin’s Son, make here Thy home!
Marvel now, O heav’n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

2. Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's Offspring, pure and fresh.
4. From the Father forth He came
And returneth to the same,
Captive leading death and hell—
High the song of triumph swell!
7. Praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be
Ever and eternally.
High the song of triumph swell!

Sermon • Luke 21:25–36

Read God's Lips

1. Through His Restless Creation
2. 2. Through His Changeless Word

-Stand-

Apostles' Creed

☞ *Having heard the Word of God, we confess our holy faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:*

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

And 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 shall 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 Prayer

Prayer of the Church

[CW p 127, alt.]

Ⓟ *O Lord, our God, You are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day You open Your hand and provide for the needs of Your children on earth.*

🔊 **We praise You for every grace and blessing.**

Ⓟ *Strengthen Your Church in all the world. Let Your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.*

🔊 **Use our ministries and offerings to extend Your healing and Your hope.**

Ⓟ *We bring You our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.*

🔊 **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

Ⓟ *Grant prosperity to our business and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.*

🔊 **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

Ⓟ *Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of Your created order.*

🔊 **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

Ⓟ *Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as Your representatives.*

🔊 **Lead us to love one another as You have loved us.**

☞ *Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions.*

[Silence for personal prayer]

☞ *Grant these prayers according to Your good and gracious will.*

[Special petitions]

☞ *Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that You will hear and with the faith that You will respond for our welfare.*

☞ **Amen.**

-Be seated-

Hymn • “The Bridegroom Soon Shall Call Us”

[ELH 100]

1. The Bridegroom soon will call us:

**Come, all ye wedding guests!
May not His voice appall us
While slumber binds our breasts!
May all our lamps be burning
And oil be found in store
That we, with Him returning,
May open find the door!**

4. Our Father, rich in blessing,

**Will give us crowns of gold
And, to His bosom pressing,
Impart a bliss untold,
Will welcome with embraces
Of never-ending love,
And deck us with His graces
In blissful realms above.**

5. In yonder home shall never
 Be silent music's voice;
 With hearts and lips forever
 We shall in God rejoice.
 The angels shall adore Him,
 All saints shall sing His praise
 And bring with joy before Him
 Their sweetest heav'nly lays.

-Stand-

Prayer for God's Continued Mercy ~ Kyrie Eleison

[Mk 10:47]

☐ *Let us pray to the Lord:*

We thank You, loving Father, that You have created us and still preserve us. Your greatest act of mercy was in giving Your only-begotten Son to be our substitute, so that we may not die, but live with You forever. For this we pray to You, Lord God the Father:

☑ **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

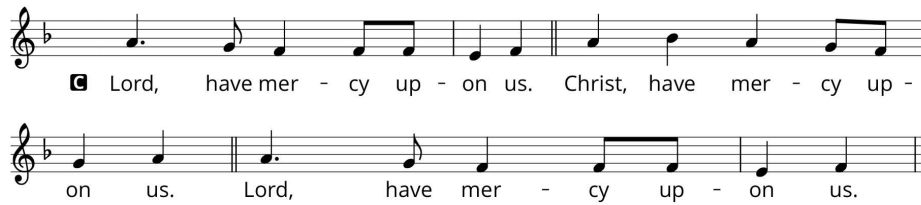
☐ *We thank You, O Christ, that You carried all our sins on Your sacred shoulders, and by Your blood have blotted away all our transgressions. Now You rule all things in heaven and earth for the good of Your Church. For this we pray to You, Lord Jesus Christ:*

☑ **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

☐ *We thank You, gracious Comforter, that You have given us Your holy Word and blessed Sacraments. Through them You have created true faith in our hearts, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. For this we pray to You, Lord the Holy Spirit:*

☑ **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

☞ *O Triune God, grant us Your grace so that we perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven for the sake of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Enlighten us by Your Holy Spirit so that, empowered by our Redeemer's death, we may turn away from sin every day, and never forsake Him until we see Him face to face in life eternal. For this we pray to You, O Holy Trinity:*



Lord's Prayer

[Mt 6:9-13]

☞ *Hear us as we pray, O Lord:*

☛ **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.**

Collect ~ Congregation's Prayer

[ELH p 118,]

☞ *Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this day. Preserve us with Your mighty power so that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity. In all we do, direct us to live as Your dear children, showing Your righteousness in all we do.*

☛ **We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Final Blessing ~ Apostolic Blessing

[ELH p 119; 2 Cor 13:14]

☞ *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...be with you all.*

☛ **Amen.**

-Be Seated-

Hymn • *“Jesus Came, the Heav’ns Adoring”*

[ELH 89]

1. Jesus Came, the heav’ns adoring,
Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came for man’s redemption,
Lowly came on earth to die,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility.
3. Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,
Bringing news of sins forgiv’n;
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness,
Leading souls redeemed to heav’n.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Now the gate of death is riv’n.



Announcements