

## First Sunday in Advent

Sunday 29 November 2020, 09.30

Advent Lutheran Church

Morgan Hill, California



*Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*

**WELCOME AND PRELUDE** We Gather Together (harp, guitar, Fr. horn, recorders & clarinet), performed by Erik Siverson, John and Kathy Hopkins

## ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING

10

### III. OF THE FATHER'S LOVE

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony*

Words by

MARCUS AURELIUS, C. PRUDENTIUS, 4TH c.

Tr. JOHN M. NEALE and HENRY W. BAKER

KYLE T. JONES

1

S. A. CANTOR/CHOIR *mp unis.*

T. B. *mp unis.*

Pno. *mp*

5

S. A. Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the world be - gan to be, he is

T. B.

Pno. *mp*

D<sup>9</sup> G<sup>9</sup> D<sup>9</sup> G<sup>9</sup>

D<sup>9</sup> G<sup>9</sup> D<sup>9</sup> A<sup>7</sup>

9

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the source, the end - ing he.

Pno.

D<sup>9</sup> G<sup>ma7</sup> Em D

13 ALL 11

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,

Pno.

B<sup>m</sup> F<sup>#m</sup>

mf

17

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.

ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.

Pno.

B<sup>m</sup> G<sup>ma7</sup> A<sup>7</sup> D

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in the scriptures.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

We wait for the one who will bring answers to a world filled with questions.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

We wait for the one who can heal what has been wounded and mend what has been broken.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

We wait for the one who can renew our weary spirits and ignite our hearts with hope.

**And he will be called Wonderful Counselor.**

Cantor: Let the heights of heav'n adore him.... **ALL (sing): Emmanuel...**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

<sup>1</sup>O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
 so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
<sup>2</sup>as when fire kindles brushwood  
 and the fire causes water to boil—  
 to make your name known to your adversaries,  
 so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
<sup>3</sup>When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
 you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
<sup>4</sup>From ages past no one has heard,  
 no ear has perceived,  
 no eye has seen any God besides you,  
 who works for those who wait for him.  
<sup>5</sup>You meet those who gladly do right,  
 those who remember you in your ways.  
 But you were angry, and we sinned;  
 because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
<sup>6</sup>We have all become like one who is unclean,  
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
 We all fade like a leaf,  
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
<sup>7</sup>There is no one who calls on your name,  
 or attempts to take hold of you;  
 for you have hidden your face from us,  
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
<sup>8</sup>Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
 we are all the work of your hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SONG

### Each Winter As the Year Grows Older



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,  
2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for  
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from  
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the  
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Prince of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the  
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and  
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that  
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can  
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.  
scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.  
we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.  
kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.  
new our lives a - gain; Lord Je - sus, come and reign!

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt.  
Music: CAROL OF HOPE, Annabeth Gay, b. 1925  
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## READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in

him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37**

*Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

<sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

Pastor Anita

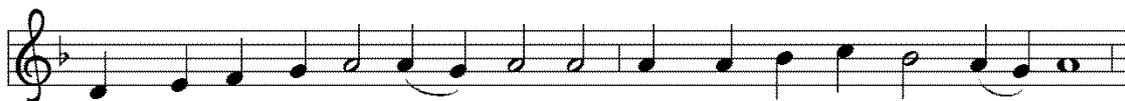
### **SERMON**

Watchful Hope

Rev. Anita R. Warner

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;  
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,  
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;  
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
 Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
 as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,  
 veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.  
 he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.  
 comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
 "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt.  
 Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

...Stir up your strength, O God.  
 Come to help us.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven

hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread,

and forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

**OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

You may give an offering

Online at [www.advent-lutheran.org](http://www.advent-lutheran.org) or

Mailed to Advent Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 607, Morgan Hill, CA 95038

**BENEDICTION**

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting,

the long-expected Savior fill you with love,

the unexpected Spirit guide your journey,

✠ now and forever.

**Amen.**

**HYMN**

Soon and Very Soon

next page

**DISMISSAL**

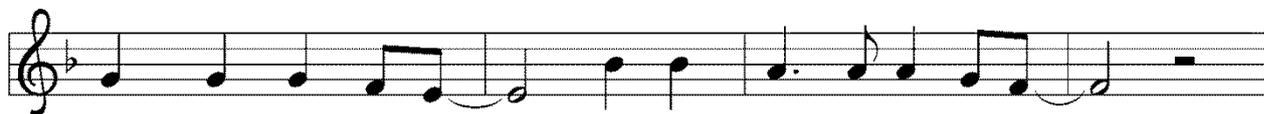
Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

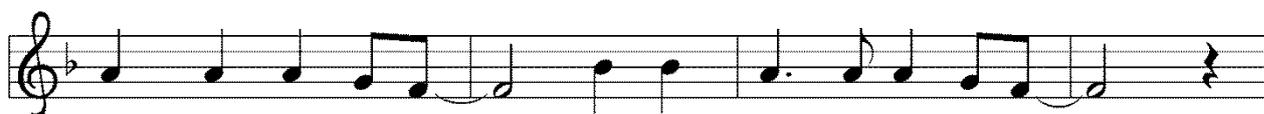
## Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon  
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 3 No more dy - in' there,  
 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
 no more dy - in' there,  
 soon and ver - y soon

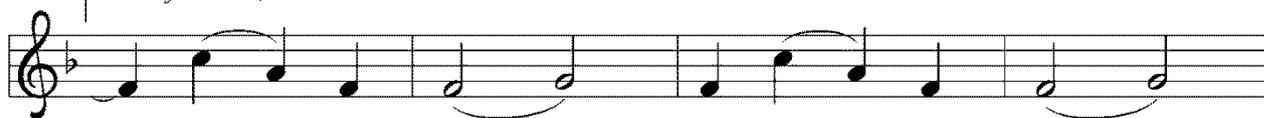


soon and ver - y soon  
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
 no more dy - in' there,  
 soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

*Coda after stanza 4*



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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