

# ADVENT

## *Adventures*

We direct *our hearts*  
and *our worship* now toward  
*the coming of Jesus*  
at Christmas and  
at the end of time.



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Midweek Of Advent 2**  
**Wednesday, December 10, 2025**  
**6:30 P.M.**

# *Peace*

**Advent Adventures of Peace in Peril**  
**Luke 1:26-38**

# CANDLE OF PEACE

## AS WE GATHER

One of the hallmarks of the Christmas story is when the angels appear to the shepherds and proclaim, "Peace on earth," in Luke 2:14. The peace of God allows us to look at others through heaven's eyes and help guide the world to see God's here and not-yet here kingdom. Peace from God, biblical peace, allows us to trust in God's promises (Proverbs 3:5), through restful, tranquil faith, despite the dark, scary world around us.

### INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### HYMN

**"Once He Came in Blessing"**

**LSB 333**

### FIRST READING

***Isaiah 26:1-9***

**P** A reading from Isaiah, the twenty-sixth chapter.

In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:  
"We have a strong city;  
he sets up salvation  
as walls and bulwarks.

Open the gates,  
that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.  
You keep him in perfect peace  
whose mind is stayed on you,  
because he trusts in you.

Trust in the Lord forever,  
for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.

For he has humbled  
the inhabitants of the height,  
the lofty city.

He lays it low, lays it low to the ground,

casts it to the dust.  
The foot tramples it,  
the feet of the poor,  
the steps of the needy.”  
The path of the righteous is level;  
you make level the way of the righteous.  
In the path of your judgments,  
O Lord, we wait for you;  
your name and remembrance  
are the desire of our soul.  
My soul yearns for you in the night;  
my spirit within me earnestly seeks you.  
For when your judgments are in the earth,  
the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.

- P** <sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,  
and His name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of His government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over His kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** When Isaiah looked forward to our Lord’s coming, he said it would be as if “the people who walked in darkness [had] seen a great light” (Isaiah 9:2). We give thanks that the Holy Spirit has shown the light of the Gospel into our hearts.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our Mighty God came into the flesh as one of us, and He knows our needs and weaknesses. Let us therefore confess our sins to our heavenly Father.
- C** **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**
- P** By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.
- C** **Amen.**

## PSALM 24

- P** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.  
The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,
- C** **for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.**
- P** Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in His holy place?
- C** **He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.**
- P** He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- C** **Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**
- P** Lift up your heads, O gates!
- C** **And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
- P** Who is this King of glory?

**C** The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

**P** Lift up your heads, O gates!

**C** And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**P** Who is this King of glory?

**C** The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!

**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 forever. Amen.**

**Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

## **EPISTLE**

***Romans 5:1-11***

**P** A reading from Romans, the fifth chapter.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his

life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 1:26-38*

**P** A reading from Luke, the first chapter.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## CATECHISM

### *The Second Article*

- P** What does it mean that we believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord?
- C** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

HYMN *"When All the World Was Cursed"*

LSB #346

## SERMON

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*"The Advent of Our King"*

LSB #331 vs 1 and 6

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Wonderful Counselor, we come to You, Lord Jesus, thankful that You have enlightened us with the counsel of Your wonderful gracious word of forgiveness for all our sins. Help us, we pray, as we interact with people who may be entrapped by their sin, not knowing Your full forgiveness, and unable to rejoice at the anniversary of Your birth. Wonderful Counselor, use us and all we have,

to bring others to hear and believe the Good News. Lord,  
in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** Mighty God, we come to You in faith, gracious Lord, trusting that You were and are God in the flesh, our Immanuel. Strengthen all who are in distress from the worldly forces that surround them. Assure them of Your presence, strengthen their faith, and lead them to Your home above, where we may all rejoice together in Your love and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** Everlasting Father, we come to You, O Lord, who conquered sin and death as ruler of creation while also serving Your people as a caring Father. Grant us to know always Your eternal presence among us and help us to amend our lives and pass on the joy of Your eternal forgiveness to our neighbors, friends, and family. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** Prince of Peace, we give thanks that You came to earth and paid the penalty that our sins deserved. Grant us steadfastness of faith to be at peace with one another, knowing that because of Your grace and love for us, we will be with You in eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** These things we pray to You, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **PRAYER FOR TODAY**

**P** Open our eyes, heavenly Father, that we may see all that You have done.



- C** By coming in the person of Your Son and by His sacrifice for us, You have assured us that the worldly forces around us shall be a thing of the past when Your Spirit ushers us into Your eternal presence;
- P** through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

- C** 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.

## **BENEDICTION**

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.
- C** Amen.

## **HYMN**

*"Now The Light Has Gone Away"*

**LSB# 887**

## DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*2025 Advent Series*

# Advent Adventures

*Joy*

**MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES**

***“Advent Adventures of Joy  
in Life’s Jarring and Jolting Journey”***

**Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. at Faith**

## *Prayer Week 2 — Peace*

Heavenly Father, You are the God who gives peace. This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus we can experience a Christmas free from turmoil and chaos. Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, you offer us peace that passes understanding.

That first Christmas, when you sent your Son, you sent the one who is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Even the angels cried out, “Glory to God in the highest [heaven](#), and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” The angels knew your purpose. They know the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love that Christmas held. They recognized that the fullness of God was wrapped in the tiny flesh of an infant as you humbled yourself and dwelt among us. Emmanuel. God with us as the baby Jesus.

That baby would grow to be the same God-man, Jesus, who would again humble himself to face death on a cruel cross as payment for our sin. He would triumphantly defeat sin and death and hell in order to cancel our sin debt and reconcile us to you, Father.

You exalted Him and gave him a name above all names. Every knee in heaven and earth and under the earth must bow to the name of Jesus. The winds and waves obey Him. He rules and reigns as king overall. No situation or circumstance that we find ourselves in is a match for Jesus.

We are able to have the fullness of peace in our hearts on Christmas day, and every day, because that same Jesus sits at your right hand in heaven and makes intercession for us. Not only that, but he paid our sin debt. He loves us with a love that is unfathomable. Nothing can separate us from His love. He is good and his plans for us are good.

Father, this second week of Advent, keep us in perfect peace as our mind is stayed on the truth of your powerful love. Thank you for your mighty, sovereign hand. Help us to trust fully in you and rest in the peace that you offer. It's in the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

# Peace

“Glory to God  
in the highest  
heaven, and on  
earth peace to  
those on whom  
his favor rests.”

*Luke 2:14, NIV*

