

Order of Worship
November 28, 2021
First Sunday in Advent
Family Life Center - 8:30am

Prelude	<i>Advent Carols</i>	
Lighting of Advent Wreath—Candle of Hope		
Welcome and Announcements		Pastor Jim
Liturgy for Advent		(Blue) p. 49
Joys and Concerns		
Offering Moment		
Pastoral Prayer		
Holy Scripture	Luke 21:25-36	
Hymn	<i>Once He Came in Blessing</i>	(Red) # 64
Sermon	“A Different Kind of Preparation”	Pastor Dan
Hymn	<i>Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord</i>	Blue) # 261
Benediction		
Postlude	<i>O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful</i>	Falk

ADVENT

(Standing)

Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, all the earth! The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Rejoice greatly, shout for joy! See, Your king is coming to you. He is righteous and brings salvation.

TUNE: ST. THEODULPH (151 G)

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.*

We praise You, the Lord God of Israel! You came to the help of Your people and have set them free.

You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, a descendant of Your servant David.

You promised through Your holy prophets long ago that You would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

You have shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and have remembered Your holy covenant.

With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham, You promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve You without fear,

So that we might be holy and righteous before You all the days of our life.

By Your tender mercy You cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us,

To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

(Sitting)

The voice of the messenger echoes from the desert, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord and to make a straight path on which He may come. Let us confess our sins, so that our crooked ways will be made straight and the rough ways smooth.

Gracious Lord Jesus, You come to us with the good news of salvation, but too often we fail to notice. You come to us day by day, yet we close the doors of our hearts when it seems convenient to do things our own way. We ignore Your presence and Your leadership. We have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Forgive us, merciful Lord. May we live so that the world will know that You have come. Amen.

Through John the Baptizer, we hear the Lord's promise: Turn away from your sins, and God will forgive your sins.

TUNE: TRURO

*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.*

*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 come, my Sovereign, enter in;
let new and nobler life begin;
the Holy Spirit guide us on,
until our glorious goal is won.*

Eternal God, Ruler of all ages, graciously You come to us in order that we might come to You, through the merit of Jesus Christ, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Help us and all your children to respond to the call of Your gospel with faith, love, and hope.

God of faith, You created humanity to serve and praise You; and even when we rebelled against You, You promised to send a Savior to redeem us from our sins:

Strengthen our faith in Your saving work through Christ. As You chose the people of Israel to hear the promise of redemption through the prophets, may people today believe in Your good will for all that You have made.

God of love, You fulfilled Your promise of a redeemer in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Grant us the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may share Your love with the sick and the afflicted, with the poor and the homeless, with the victims of injustice and discrimination, and with all who are experiencing times of trouble.

God of hope, You comfort us through our Savior's promise to return in glory at the end of time:

As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, let us not despair. We long for you to inspire all the nations and peoples of the world to turn to cooperation and nurture, rather than to hatred and destruction.

God of faith, love, and hope, to You and to You alone we pray:

For You are our God, the only God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Standing)

(Hosanna, page 239)

Lord, You have kept the promise You made to our ancestors, and have come to the help of Your servant people.

You remembered to show mercy to Abraham and Sarah and to all their descendants forever!

We praise you, Lord. You are enthroned in glory, yet You came and continue to come for all who will receive You. We praise You, for You are good, and Your mercy endures forever.

To You be glory and power, forever and ever. Amen.

TUNE: REGENT SQUARE (585 D)

(ALL) *Praise to you, O Lord, we render
for your love in Jesus shown;
may that love, so strong and tender,
bind us fast to him alone;*
(CHOIR) *now and ever,*
(ALL) *now and ever,
gather us among Your own.*

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Once He Came in Blessing

Jan Roh (John Horn) — -1547 (1544)
Catherine Winkworth, tr., 1829-1878 (1863)

ADVENT 6.6.6.6.6. Trochaic (72, C)
John Fred. Wolle, 1863-1933 (1888)

1. Once He came in bless - ing All our ills re - dress - ing,
2. Still He comes with - in us; Still His voice would win us
3. Thus if thou hast known Him, Not a - shamed to own Him,

Came in like - ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;
From the sins that hurt us; Would to truth con - vert us
Nor dost love Him cold - ly, But wilt trust Him bold - ly,

Bore the Cross to save us, Hope and free - dom gave us.
From our fool - ish er - rors, Ere He comes in ter - rors.
He will now re - ceive thee, Heal thee, and for - give thee. A - MEN.

4 He, who well endureth
Bright reward secureth.
Come then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us;
Let us here confess Thee,
Till in heaven we bless Thee.

THE CHURCH YEAR: Advent

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord 261

1 Let the earth now praise the Lord,
 2 What the fa - thers most de - sired,
 3 Wel - come, O my Sav - ior, now!
 4 As your com - ing was in peace,

who has tru - ly kept his word and at last to
 what the proph - et's heart in - spired, what they longed for
 Joy - ful, Lord, to you I bow. Come in - to my
 qui - et, full of gen - tle - ness, let the same mind

us did send Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 man - y a year, stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 heart, I pray; O, pre - pare your - self a way!
 dwell in me which is yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Then when you will come again
 as the glorious king to reign,
 I with joy will see your face,
 freely ransomed by your grace.