

St Peter Lutheran Church

Order of Worship

Wednesday Advent Service Week Two: Wait Upon the Lord with Hope

Psalm 130:5

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope.

Christmas Carols

364 Away in a Manger

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet
head. The stars in the sky looked down
where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Text: Public domain

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the
sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

370 What Child Is This

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: Public domain

(Please stand, as you are able)

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Invocation and Call To Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Wait upon the Lord

C Be strong and courageous

P Wait upon the Lord. That's what Isaiah said.

C Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.

P They shall mount up with wings like eagles.

C They shall run and not be weary.

P They shall walk and not faint. Wait upon the Lord.

C **Be strong and courageous. Wait upon the Lord!**

Opening Hymn: LSB 349 Hark the Glad Sound

1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.

3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.

2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

Text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

P God of all mercy and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

C **We admit that we have become impatient with ourselves, each other, and sometimes with you. We have turned to our own way and have gone stray from your will. Lost in sin and needing to become strong and courageous, we ask you, O Lord, to forgive our sin, cleanse our hearts, and keep us patiently waiting for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(silence for personal confession and reflection)

P Believe and receive the good news! God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all people. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of ✠ Christ who came and indeed, will come again.

C **Amen.**

P Wait upon the Lord.

C **Be strong and courageous. Wait upon the Lord!**

Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy.

C **Give us patience.**

P Christ, have mercy.

C **Give us patience and peace.**

P Lord, have mercy.

C **Give us patience and peace for the living of these days.**

Old Testament Reading, Isaiah 40:27-31

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.

³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;

³¹ but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

L This is the Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God**

Epistle Reading, Romans 8:22-25

For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L This is the Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God**

(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel, John 1:1-5

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John **C** **Glory to You, O Lord**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, ^a and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord **C** **Praise to You, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon Hymn LSB 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

1 "Comfort, comfort ye My people,
Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
"Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover
And her warfare now is over."

3 For the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance,
Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

Text: Public domain

2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved His anger
He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many_a day,
Now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness
Into ever-springing gladness.

4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That His Word is never broken.

Sermon

Offering

(Please stand, as you are able)

Prayers

P Heavenly Father, we wait for you.

C **More than watchmen wait for the morning --**

P More than watchmen wait for the morning

C **Lead us in your truth and teach us.**

P For you are the God of our salvation.

C **For you we wait all the day long.**

P O God, inspire us to wait for you faithfully,

C **Serve you joyfully**

P and give to others generously.

C **Gracious Lord, grant healing for the sick.**

P Courage for the fainthearted.

C **Hope for the discouraged.**

P and great clarity for all in the valley of decision.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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 May God give us the faith of Abraham, the hope of Isaiah, the joy of Elizabeth, and the gratitude of Zechariah. God will make us strong and courageous!

C As we wait upon the Lord! Amen!

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Song *Be Strong and Courageous* *Linda Noble Lemond*

1) Be strong and courageous!

Don't be terrified. Don't be discouraged

For God's on our side.

He never will forsake us.

Whatever we do. In each endeavor

He will carry us through.

Instrumental Interlude

3) Be strong and courageous! Wherever we dwell

Jesus is with us Immanuel.

No foe can harm us We're safe in His hand,

And He will lead us To the blest Promised Land.

And He will lead us To the blest Promised Land.

Text (sts. 1-2): Public domain

2) Be strong and courageous!

Whatever the task Jesus will help us

Whenever we ask,

Our arms He strengthens,

Our bodies He feeds. Before we ask Him,

He knows all our needs.

(Please be seated)

Announcements

I LOVE THE PROLOGUE
IN JOHN! IT'S SO
MYSTERIOUS -- IT'S
PERFECT FOR
CHRISTMAS!



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A LONG TIME AGO
IN A GALAXY
FAR FAR AWAY...



YEAHHH -- THAT'S
THE WRONG
PROLOGUE.



JOHN 1:1-14

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