

St Peter Lutheran Church

Order of Worship

The First Sunday in Advent, December 1, 2024

Welcome

Isaiah 40:1–2 “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Theme of the Day: The prophet writes in Isaiah 40:1, “Comfort, comfort my people.” Gone is the scornful “this people” of Isaiah 6:9. Now it’s “my people!” The words explode with comfort, for this is God’s covenant promise, “I will be your God, and you will be my people” (Exodus 6:7). Comfort comes in Isaiah 40:1 and comfort appears in the words of Isaiah 40:11, “He will tend his flock like a Shepherd.”

(Please stand, as you are able)

Invocation

P In the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

C Amen.

P Prepare ye the way of the Lord

C Hallelujah

P Make His path’s straight,

C Oh come, let us worship Him!

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C And to the Holy Spirit.

P As it was in the beginning,

C Is now and will be forever. Amen.

Call To Worship

P In Advent, we celebrate the faithfulness of God. He has always been true to His Word. He promised to pierce our darkness with His light, and fulfilled that promise by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, as the Light of the world.

C Come, Lord Jesus. Come and be the light in our lives.

P Let Your light shine in us,

C And scatter the darkness of our sinfulness.

P Let Your light shine through us,

C That others may see You within us.

P Let Your light shine on us,

C And fill us with joy and peace.

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C The light no darkness can overcome.

Opening Hymn: LSB 331 The Advent of Our King

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy. | 2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free. |
| 3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring. | 4 As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign. |
| 5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on. | D 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity. |

Text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

- P** All we like sheep have gone astray;
C **Each of us has turned to his own way;**
P And the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
C **Have mercy on us, O God.**
P We have turned away from each other in our speaking, thinking and doing.
C **Have mercy on us, O God.**
P We have turned away from you in stubbornness and sinful pride.

(silence for personal confession and reflection)

- P** “Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins” (Isaiah 40:1–2). Christ's blood was shed for you and his comfort is yours—freely and everlastingly. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **AMEN. All we like sheep have gone astray;**
P Each of us has turned to his own way;
A **And the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

Salutation and Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen** *(Please be seated)*

Old Testament Reading, Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare^[a] is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand

double for all her sins.

L This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

Epistle Reading, 2 Corinthians 1:3-10

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵ For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.^[a] ⁶ If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. ⁷ Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

⁸ For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers,^[b] of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

L This is the Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel, Matthew 11:1-15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew **G** **Glory to You, O Lord**

When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities.

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴ And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers ^a are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man ^b dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? ^c Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, ^d and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, ^e let him hear.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord

G **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." | 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. |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners 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.

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.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

(Please stand, as you are able)

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers: Based upon Psalm 23

P Lord, hear us as we pray:

C The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

P He makes me lie down in green pastures.

C He leads me beside still waters.

P He restores my soul.

C He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

P Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

C For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

P You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

C You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

(Additional prayers)

**All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in
the house of the LORD forever. In Jesus' Name. Amen.**

Peace of the Lord

(Please greet the people around you with God's peace)

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.**

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

The Word of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

☐ 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Communion Distribution *(Please be seated)*

St Peter's Communion Statement

The Lord's Supper is a special gift given by Jesus Christ to all baptized believers in the community of faith. In preparing for the Lord's Supper, we are to reflect upon the following questions:

1. Do I believe that I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness?
2. Do I believe that, within this Sacrament, the bread and wine are Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins?
3. Do I promise, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life?
4. Do I confess and belief the same doctrines of faith as the church body with which I am about to commune?

If you are having difficulty in answering "yes" to any of the above questions, please follow the guide of Scripture and refrain from taking communion today. Our Pastor would be glad to visit with you after the service to answer any questions you may have about our Communion practice.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please signal to Pastor by holding up your index finger in front of you.

Non-alcoholic white grape juice is available in the center of the tray, for those with alcohol sensitivities

332 Savior of the Nations, Come

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your 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. |
| 3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne. | 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all
From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man,
His heroic course began. |

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

Text (sts. 1-2): Public domain

Text (st. 3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001715

Hosanna (Carl Tuttle)

Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Lord, we lift up Your name,
With hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, O Lord, my God,
Hosanna in the highest!

Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings.
Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings.
Lord, we lift up Your name,
With hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, O Lord, my God,
Hosanna in the highest!

Instrumental Interlude

Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna, hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise;
Be exalted, O Lord, my God, Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Public domain

Shalom

Shalom, good friends, Shalom, good friends, Shalom shalom!
'Til we meet again, 'Til we meet again, Shalom, shalom!

"I Will Call Upon the Lord" (Michael O'Shields)

I will call upon the Lord. Who is worthy to be praised: So shall I be saved from mine enemies.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted. The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and may the God of my salvation be exalted.

(Repeat all)

I will call upon the Lord. Who is worthy to be praised.

(Sing above line 3 more times)

CCLI Song # 11263 Author Michael O'Shields © 1981 MCA Music Publ., A.D.O. Universal Studio (Admin. by Universal Music Corp.) CCLI License # 2235066

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Closing Hymn 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

ref **In Him there is no darkness at all.**

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

Text: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001715

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

P Go in peace! **C Serve the Lord**

P Let us bless the Lord **C Thanks be to God**

(Please be seated)

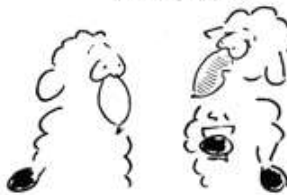
Announcements

THE CHURCH HAS
BEEN WAITING FOR
OVER 2,000 YEARS.
THAT'S A **LONG**
TIME.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG THX 2 XP/CSTONE

JESUS CREATED
A PEOPLE
WHO WAIT
AND SERVE.



ARE YOU SAYING
THAT LIKE IT'S A
GOOD THING?



MATTHEW 11:2-11

© WETZSTEIN 15.11.05

Used by permission from agnusday.org