
WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICE DECEMBER 15, 2021



WELCOME

HYMN: “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” (LSB #940)

**Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heav’n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.**

**Hark! The glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav’ns with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord!**

**Thou art King of Glory, Christ;
Son of God, yet born of Mary.
For us sinners sacrificed,
As to death a Tributary,
First to break the bars of death,
Thou hast opened heav’n to faith.**

**Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;
Though in essence only one,
Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee
While we own the mystery.**

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INVOCATION

EVENING PRAYER: (*Spoken together*)

We give thanks to You, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ Your dear Son, that You have this day so graciously protected us. We beg You to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By Your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into Your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let Your holy angels have charge of us that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 1:10-12

¹⁰ Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, ¹¹ trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ¹² It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things.

SECOND READING: Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and “sinners” were all gathering around to hear him. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. ⁸ “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

RESPONSE:

Pastor: Sing to the Lord and bless his name, proclaim his salvation from day to day.

People: Give to the Lord all glory and strength, give Him the honor due His name. Alleluia, alleluia.

Pastor: Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that sleep.

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN: “Songs of Praise the Angels Sang” (LW #447)

**Songs of praise the angels sang,
Heav’n with alleluias rang
When creation was begun,
When God spoke and it was done.**

**Songs of praise awoke the morn
When the Prince of Peace was born;
Songs of praise arose when he
Captive led captivity.**

**Saints below, with heart and voice,
Still in songs of praise rejoice,
Learning here, by faith and love,
Songs of praise to sing above.**

**Carried by their final breath,
Songs of praise shall conquer death;
Then, amid eternal joy,
Songs of praise their power employ.**

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SERMON: Luke 2:13,14 “Angels Ooh, Aah, and Rejoice!”

OFFERING

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

BLESSING:

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen.

HYMN: "Lift Up Your Heads..." (LSB #341)

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of Glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise,
Your joyful songs of praise.**

**Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in
And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise
For word and deed and grace!**

**Redeemer, come and open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
O enter with Thy grace divine;
Thy face of mercy on me shine.
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name.**

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