

*P: Christ is coming soon. Alleluia!*

**C: We await His return and look for His coming.**

*P: O Lord, open my lips,*

**C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

*P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;*

**C: make haste to help me, O Lord. 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.**

### **Hymn:**

**“Come, O Long-Expected Jesus”**

### **The Prayer of the Day**

*P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ. May His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. For You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation; and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**C Amen.**

### **A Responsive Psalmody ... from Psalm 103**

*P: Praise the LORD, O my soul;*

**C: all my inmost being, praise his holy name.**

*P: Praise the LORD, O my soul,*

**C: and forget not all his benefits—**

*P: who forgives all your sins*

**C: and heals all your diseases,**

*P: who redeems your life from the pit*

**C: and crowns you with love and compassion.**

*P: The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*

**C: slow to anger, abounding in love.**

*P: He does not treat us as our sins deserve*

**C: or repay us according to our iniquities.**

*P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*

**C: so great is his love for those who fear him.**

*P: But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD'S love is with those who fear him,*

**C: and his righteousness with their children's children.**

### **Scripture lesson...Luke 1:26-56**

#### **Confession of Faith**

**(Explanation of Second Article)**

**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.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.**

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn: “When All the World Was Cursed”

Sermon ... John 1:29

Advent Directions:

“Look!”

Hymn 705: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

Prayer, Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn: “The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Is Ended”

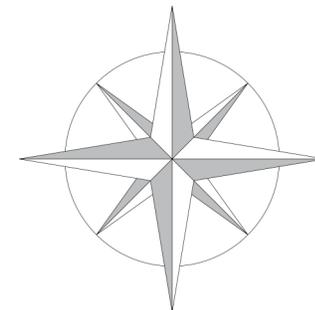


# Advent Directions

A Series of Special Services

for Advent

*December 9, 2020*



—LOOK!—

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

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!

**Opening:**

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

**C Amen.**