

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, Thou 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 25

P: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;

C: in you I trust, O my God.

P: Do not let me be put to shame,

C: nor let my enemies triumph over me.

P: No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame,

C: but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.

P: Show me your ways, O LORD,

C: teach me your paths;

P: guide me in your truth and teach me,

C: for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

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:

“Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People”

Sermon ... Isaiah 40:30-31

WAIT UPON THE LORD:

—*With Hope*—

Offering

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Hymn: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

The Benediction

Hymn:

"The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Is Ended"



Wait Upon the Lord

A Series of Special Services
for Advent

December 8, 2021

—*With Hope*—



"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.