

Opening:

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

C Amen.

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:

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

The Prayer of the Day

P Hear our prayer, O God, our cry for mercy. As You graciously heard the prayers of Your Old Testament people and promised them a Savior from sin and death, so fill our hearts and lives with joy through the message of Your promise’s fulfillment in Jesus. In His name we come boldly to Your throne of grace.

C Amen.

A Responsive Psalmody ... from Psalm 95

P: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;

C: let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

P: Let us come before him with thanksgiving

C: and extol him with music and song.

P: For the LORD is the great God,

C: the great King above all gods.

P: In his hand are the depths of the earth,

C: and the mountain peaks belong to him.

P: The sea is his, for he made it,

C: and his hands formed the dry land.

P: Come, let us bow down in worship,

C: let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

P: for he is our God

C: and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Scripture lesson...Luke 1:57-80

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:
“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

Sermon ... Hebrews 11:8-10

WAIT UPON THE LORD:
—With Joy Along the Way—

Offering

Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

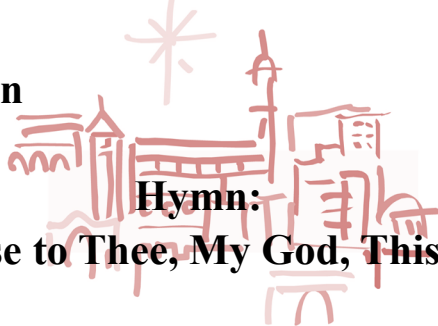
Hymn: “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing”

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:
“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”



Wait Upon the Lord

A Series of Special Services
for Advent
December 15, 2021

—With Joy Along the Way—



“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!

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.