

# Behold, Your King Comes!

A Series of Special Services  
for Advent  
*December 6, 2023*



—In Truth—

## “The Advent of Our King” (LSB 331:1-2)

*The advent of our King  
Our prayers must now employ,  
And we must hymns of welcome sing  
In strains of holy joy.*



*The everlasting Son  
Incarnate deigns to be,  
Himself a servant's form puts on  
To set His servants free.*

### **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.**

*P: Christ is coming soon. Alleluia!*

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

## **Hymn 352:**

### **“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”**

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

*P Almighty God, You remembered our greatest need by fulfilling Your promise to send us Your Son, who died and rose to deliver us from all sin, death, and the power of the devil. Comfort us with the preaching of the Gospel and fill us with unshakable faith in Your precious promises, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C Amen.**

#### **A Responsive Psalmody ... from Psalm 130**

*P: If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,*

**C: O Lord, who could stand?**

*P: But with you there is forgiveness;*

**C: therefore you are feared.**

*P: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,*

**C: and in his word I put my hope.**

*P: My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning,*

**C: more than watchmen wait for the morning.**

*P: O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love*

**C: and with him is full redemption.**

*P: He himself will redeem Israel*

**C: from all their sins.**

## **Scripture lesson...Luke 1:1-25 (EHV)**

### **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 350:**

**“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”**

**Sermon ... 1 John 4:1-6**

**BEHOLD, YOUR KING COMES!**

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**Offering**

**Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

## **Choir: “Come and Worship”**

*Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story Now proclaim Messiah's birth:*

*Refrain*

*Come and worship, come and worship,  
Come and worship; Worship Christ the newborn King.*

*Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing; Yonder shines the Infant Light:*

*Refrain*

*Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In his temple shall appear.*

*Refrain*

## **Hymn 526: “You Are the Way; through You Alone”**

### **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 877:  
“God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven”**



Almighty God, Father of all mercies and God of all comfort, we thank and praise You for the coming of Your Son Jesus Christ, the Light to lighten the gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel.

As Your servants in Old Testament times looked with fervent longing for the coming of the Messiah, grant that we may eagerly and joyfully welcome Him, Jesus our Lord, into our hearts by faith, and thus be delivered by His might from the power of sin, death, and the devil.

Dear God, lead us by Your Spirit to an understanding of our great sinfulness and our need of repentance. Help us to hate evil and to love the good. Strengthen us against the temptations of all our adversaries. Incline our hearts to seek righteousness and holiness, so that we may serve and glorify You in every way.

Send out Your light to all corners of the earth, that men everywhere may know Your love in the gift of Your Son Jesus Christ, and join the multitude of Your people who say, *"Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest!"*

Bless all who are gathered here in Your house this night and sanctify them by Your Word. To those among us who are afflicted in any way, to those who are in sorrow, to those who are enduring trials, to those who may be in any necessity of body or spirit, grant strength, comfort, understanding, and patience. Let them feel the warmth of Your love, and give them peace and joy in the abiding promise of grace through Christ.

Grant us patience to wait for You and Your help which according to Your Word will come at just the right time. Give us faith to trust that nothing is too hard for You.

All these things we ask in the Name of Jesus our Lord, who came for our deliverance, died for our salvation, rose again for our justification, and ever lives to plead for us before Your Majesty on High. In Jesus' Name we pray, Amen.

P: Lord God, we thank You for this day of grace now drawing to a close. May Your Word keep our faith burning brightly. Come and bless us as we worship You: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.