

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Come and Save Us All

December 21 & 22, 2013

### AS WE GATHER

One of the most well-known of all Advent hymns is “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” In each of the seven stanzas of this hymn, we plead that our Savior would “come.” Our Gospel reading reminds us that our Savior has come and is literally our Emmanuel, or, “God with us.” At His incarnation in Mary’s womb and birth at Christmas, God was with us. Today, in His Word and Holy Supper, God is with us. At His return on the Last Day, God will be with us as our Emmanuel takes us to be with Him.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel! *LSB 357:1*

As you sing this hymn, truly rejoice in knowing that your Emmanuel has come, continues to come, and will come again!

### WELCOME

**“The Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”**

Revelation 7:17

### FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

**OPENING HYMN #357 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”** Stanzas 1-3

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord’rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. **Refrain**

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai’s height  
In ancient times didst give the Law In cloud and majesty and awe. **Refrain**

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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People: Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Behold, the virgin shall conceive

People: **and bear a son,**

Pastor: and they shall call His name Immanuel,

People: **which means, God with us.**

### LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

People: **the light no darkness can overcome.**

### SONG

#### “Light One Candle”

AGPS 163

Light one candle for hope. One bright candle for hope,  
He brings hope to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace,  
He brings peace to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy,  
Ev’ry nation will find salvation in Beth’em’s baby boy.

Light one candle for love, one bright candle for love,  
He brings love to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!

He brings love to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!

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### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In the mystery of the incarnation, we see that God lovingly chose to be in communion with us—to take on our flesh. Yet, we separate ourselves from our loving God by our sin. As we gather together this Advent to worship, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God sins that have separated us from Him and one another. Together as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to Everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my

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office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come and help us by your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by your grace and mercy; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**5:00 BAPTISM** of Owen Alexander Geitz

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*Please refrain from taking photographs during the worship service.*

**+ WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT** Isaiah 7:10–17 (*The sign of Immanuel*) Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, “Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test.” Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. The Lord will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah – he will bring the king of Assyria.”

**EPISTLE** Romans 1:1–7 (*Grace to you and peace*) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God – the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him and for his name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 1:18–25 (*The Birth of Jesus Christ*) This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” – which means, “God with us.” When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

(Be seated)

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #357** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Stanzas 4-7

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse’s tree, Free them from Satan’s tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow’r to save, And give them vict’ry o’er the grave.

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav’nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. **Refrain**

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death’s dark shadows put to flight. **Refrain**

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. **Refrain**

**SERMON**

*“The Name of Jesus”*

Matthew 1:18-25

(Rise)

**8:00 & 10:30 NICENE CREED** (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

(Be seated)

**OFFERINGS** As your offering is collected, please **sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Rise)

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Merciful Lord, all creation belongs to you. To restore creation, you sent your Son to take human flesh in the womb of the blessed Virgin.

**People: Hear the groans of all creation, longing for the revealing of the sons of God, and the day of our Lord's second advent. Keep us all steadfast in the faith until that day.**

Pastor: Gracious Father, you placed your Son into a family. As you gave life to Mary's Lord in her womb, bless the vocation of motherhood and bless all women you have called to this blessed estate. As you taught your Son through His earthly father, Joseph, bless all fathers in their holy callings to teach their children your Word and to call upon you in prayer.

**People: Use your Church as a family for the lonely, widows, orphans and all single people.**

Pastor: Almighty God, by your Son's incarnation, you have shielded us from the spiritual perils of sin, death and hell. Through your ongoing work to preserve creation, you likewise shield us from earthly perils. Be with those whose callings are to serve and protect us.

**People: Bless all police and firemen, emergency workers and doctors, the men and women of our armed services, and any who work for our safety and protection, for the order of creation. Be their guardian in danger.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, all times and seasons are in your hands. Abide with your Church in times of waiting for the advent of our Savior, your Son.

**People: Grant faithfulness to all pastors and congregations, courage to all your children in the face of persecution, and zeal in prayer and watchfulness to all Christians.**

Pastor: Almighty God, our Father, we give you thanks and praise for the blessings of Holy Baptism and rejoice as Owen Alexander Geitz is baptized into Christ this weekend.

**People: Grant us all to rejoice in our own baptism, when you claimed us as your children, cleansed us of our sins, and called us to walk through life by the leading of your Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, you commanded Joseph to name your Son Jesus, for He would save His people from their sins. Give to all preparing to receive the Lord's Supper true faith and trust in Jesus for forgiveness, that they might receive the Sacrament worthily.

**People: Bless those who are still being taught the Faith in view of one day receiving the Lord's Supper, that they might learn to treasure the mysteries of the Christian faith.**

Pastor: Gracious Father, you sent your Son into the flesh to bear our infirmities. Continue to bear the infirmities of all who suffer; remember especially those who have requested our intercessions including Carlene, Jeff, John, Don, Dorothy, Leona, Dorothy, Bob, June, Jerry, Dolores, Eleanor, Lorina, Jean, Sarah and Joe.

**People: Grant that they may have your gracious visitation in their afflictions and relief according to your will.**

Pastor: Kind Father, receive today our grateful thanks for all who have fallen asleep in the faith, trusting in the virgin Mary's Son for forgiveness, life, and eternal salvation. We ask you to bless and comfort those who grieve the passing of loved ones, especially Jan as she remembers her husband Bob, and Betty as she remembers her parents, Ed and Meta.

**People: Grant to us our portion with your saints in Kingdom of Light and bless us to look forward to a reunion with those who have gone before us.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

### **8:00 & 10:30 THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**+ SACRAMENT +**

### **WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

### **AGNUS DEI**

**"Lamb of God"**

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**HYMN #353 “Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”**

Jesus came, the heav’ns adoring, Came with peace from realms on high;  
Jesus came to win redemption, Lowly came on earth to die;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility.

Jesus comes again in mercy When our hearts are worn with care;  
Jesus comes again in answer To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.

Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Brining news of sins forgiv’n;  
Jesus comes with words of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heav’n.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Hope to all the world is giv’n.

Jesus comes in joy and sorrow, Shares alike our hopes and fears;  
Jesus comes, whate’er befalls us, Cheers our hearts and dries our tears;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Comforts us in failing years.

**“The Word Made Flesh, the Holy King”**

(Sung to tune #348 “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”)

The Word made flesh, the holy King, The Virgin Mary’s Child:  
Such majesty that angels sing— In lowly infant mild.

King David’s Son, the Promised One Foretold from age to age:  
The true Messiah now has come, Fulfilling sacred page.

Our God Incarnate, Jesus Christ, Came down to earth to dwell.  
His body broken in the price To save us all from hell.

Our dear Redeemer’s body lay, His wounds fresh from the tree.  
Yet in the tomb He would not stay; From death He would break free.

O Son of God, O Son of Man, The resurrected King:  
We lift our heads, we raise our hands, Our mouths will ever sing!

Our risen Savior at the throne Will call us to His side.  
Our earthen tombs are not our home; We will with Him abide!

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**HYMN #810 “O God of God, O Light of Light”**

O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and King of kings:  
To You in heav-en’s glory bright The song of praise forever rings.  
To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain but raised again,  
Be all the glory He has won, All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

For deep in prophets’ sacred page, And grand in poets’ winged word,  
Slowly in type, from age to age The nations saw their coming Lord;  
Till through the deep Judean night Rang out the son, “Good-will to men!”  
Sung once by first-born sons of light, It echoes now, “Good-will!” Amen.

That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in hate and scorn-  
These all are past, and now above He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.  
Lift up your heads, O mighty gates! So sang that host beyond our ken.  
Lift up your heads, your King awaits. We lift them up. Amen, amen.

Then raise to Christ a mighty song, And shout His name, His mercies tell!  
Sing, heav’n-ly host, your praise prolong, And all on earth, your anthem swell!  
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain! Forever let the song ascend!  
Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign, All glory, pow’r! Amen, amen.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that as you came to us  
in the mystery of the incarnation of your Son, so also in the mystery of  
Holy Communion, your forgiveness and peace have come into our lives  
this day; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,

**People: that the King of glory may come in.**

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you  
peace.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #350 “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”**

Come, Thou precious Ransom, come, Only hope for sinful mortals!  
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to Thee all portals.  
Come, Thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for Thee.

Enter now my waiting heart, Glorious King and Lord most holy.  
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, Though I am but poor and lowly.  
Ah, what riches will be mine When Thou art my quest divine!

My hosannas and my palms Graciously receive, I pray Thee;  
Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay Thee,  
And in faith I will embrace, Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

Hail! Hosanna, David's Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!  
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown, Bring us blessing and salvation,  
That forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our King.

Preacher	Pastor Harold Bender
Liturgist	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Jane Adams, Jodi Drew, Pat Graf
Acolytes	Hailey Kadolph, Kelsey Koepke, Brian Schaber
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller