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**1st Sunday in Advent**

“My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.” *LSB* 575:1a

**AS WE GATHER**

Some days in our lives stand out as more memorable than others. The birth of a child, a long-awaited graduation, a particular vacation, or a family gathering are all days of joy that become part of the stories of our lives. A terrible illness, the death of someone dear, the loss of a job—these days, too, stand out as moments seared in our memories of pain that never seems to go away entirely. Some days stand out more than others. Today’s Readings declare the days when Jesus came into the midst of all our joys and sorrows to bring joy, restoration, and hope. Our salvation was won on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. And the day is still coming when Christ will return and all creation will be restored. Jesus fills our days—good or bad, joyful or sorrowful—with His gracious presence from now until He returns on that great Last Day.

**BAPTISM of Karsynn Channing Hoover** *(Saturday)*

(*LSB*, Holy Baptism, pg. 268-271)

**INVOCATION and SENTENCES** *Jeremiah 33:14–15; Luke 21:27, 33*

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

**People: Amen**

Pastor: The Lord says, “I will fulfill the promise I made to the houses of Israel and Judah.”

**People: We thank You, O Lord!**

Pastor: The Lord says, “My righteous Branch will cause justice and righteousness to spring up.”

**People: We adore You, O Lord!**

Pastor: The Lord says, “You will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

**People: We praise You, O Lord!**

Pastor: The Lord says, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away.”

**People: We worship You, O Lord!**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

*One Advent candle is lit.*

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Psalm 25:6–7*

Pastor: Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God’s new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

*A time of silence is observed.*

Pastor: We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have neither loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.

**People: Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**People: according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”* (*LSB* 341, vs. 1-3)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Jeremiah 33:14-16 *(bulletin insert)*

**INTROIT** *(bulletin insert)*

**EPISTLE** 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 *(bulletin insert)*

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 19:28-40 *(bulletin insert)*

**HYMN** *“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”* (*LSB* 348)

**SERMON “*Those Days”***

# THE NICENE CREED *(LSB*,back inside cover)

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD’S PRAYER

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However,* ***if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing****. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”* (*LSB* 357)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, we thank You for the gift of Christ’s body and blood, wherein our sins are forgiven, our days are blessed, and You make us into Your people; 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

**HYMN** *“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”* (*LSB* 341, vs. 4-5)

**Midweek (Wednesday evening) Advent Service Series**

**December 1**

**7:00 p.m., with meal offered beforehand at 6 p.m.**

**“When Heaven Met Earth: Advent Answers to Hard Questions Hardly Anybody Is Asking … *The Birth of God: How … and Why?”***

**December 8**

**7:00 p.m., with meal offered beforehand at 6 p.m.**

**“… *The Obedient Child: Did He Know?”***

**December 15**

**7:00 p.m., with meal offered beforehand at 6 p.m.**

**“… *The Man’s Man: Why Would Jesus Ever Cry?”***

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH,**

Rev. Curt Hoover, Rev. Alebachew Teshome,

Rev. Craig Fiebiger, Rev. Doug DeWitt

2640 Buckner Road, Thompson’s Station, TN 37179, (615) 791-1880

[www.faithlutheran-tn.org](http://www.faithlutheran-tn.org), Nov. 27/28, 2021

**All are welcome …**

**… Christ is honored.**