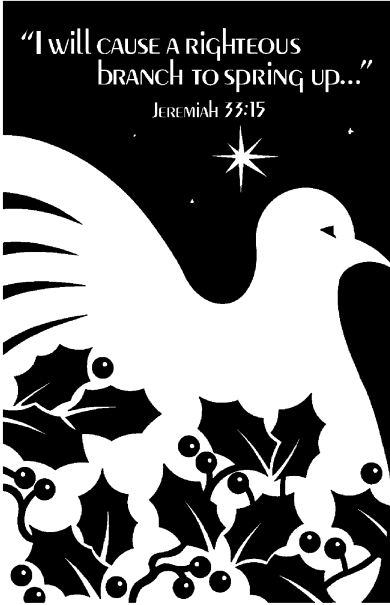


First Week in Advent
Worship on Wednesday - Vespers
December 1, 2021 7:00 p.m.



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL.'



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

Rev. Thomas A. Rhodes, Pastor

PO Box 5 • 600 East Aldrich Road • Bolivar, MO 65613

Phone: 417-326-5506 • www.zionlutheranbolivar.org

zionbolivar@windstream.net

Administrative Assistant – Sonya Gorman



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

You are invited to use the yellow Prayer Cards for prayer requests. Please hand this card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

** Please turn off cellphones**

First Week in Advent Worship on Wednesday - Vespers December 1, 2021 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by
all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

L In the name of the Father and of the
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

Lighting of the Advent Wreath - The First Candle: The Prophecy Candle

L As we light the first candle on our Advent wreath, we recall with thanksgiving the vivid and courageous words and actions of the prophets. Called by God and overtaken by the Word, they spoke forth God's truth and pointed to the coming of the Messiah. Their words still call us to faith and to action.

C **Lord Christ, come among us, and by Your Spirit, grant us courage to speak and to act as those who have been called and chosen to**

carry Your Word to our world.
Raise up among us wise and
faithful messengers of Your
grace and peace. In Your strong
name. Amen.

L Rejoice greatly, O daughter of
Zion.

C Shout aloud, O daughter of
Jerusalem.

L Behold, your king is coming to you:

C righteous and having salvation.

L Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord.

C From the house of the Lord we
bless you. *Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C Merciful God, we confess to You the darkness of our thoughts, words, and deeds shrouded by sin and fear. We cannot free ourselves, and so we come to You asking You to shed Your light of mercy and grace on us that we may know and receive Your forgiveness, light, and life. Amen.

L Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life

through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Opening Hymn

LSB 331 sts. 1-4

“The Advent of Our King”



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him-self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spite The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

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Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:15

15 And I will put enmity between you
and the woman, and between your

offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

9 How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? 10 Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. 12 May the

Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you.
13 May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-9

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar – when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of

Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene – 2 during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. 3 He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. 4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. 5 Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.

6 And all people will see God's salvation.””

7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 9 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

L Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord is Our Righteousness.**

L In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord is Our Righteousness.**

L Glory be to the Father and to ☩ the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord is Our Righteousness.**

Hymn of the Day

LSB 807 sts. 1-5

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”



1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, My heart, a - wak - ing, cries,
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, This is my song of songs:
3 No love-lier an - ti - phon In all high heav'n is known
4 Ye na - tions of man - kind, In this your con - cord find:
5 Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face,



“May Je - sus Christ be praised!” When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
“May Je - sus Christ be praised!” God’s ho - ly house of prayer
Than “Je - sus Christ be praised!” There to the e - ter - nal Word
“May Je - sus Christ be praised!” Let all the earth a - round
Sing, “Je - sus Christ be praised!” God’s whole cre - a - tion o’er,



This rings my cur-few call: “May Je - sus Christ be praised!”
Hath none that can com-pare With “Je - sus Christ be praised!”
The e - ter - nal psalm is heard: “May Je - sus Christ be praised!”
Ring joy - ous with the sound: “May Je - sus Christ be praised!”
Both now and ev - er - more Shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

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Homily

***“Advent Announced”
Pastor Tom Rhodes***

OFFERING – In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God’s abundant provision to you, please use the offering plates in the back as you enter or exit. (This is just as it says: an offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!)

Stand

ANTIPHON

L Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

KYRIE (spoken in unison)

L C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer *atthew 6:9-13*

L Lord, remember us in Your kingdom
and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS

Prayer of the Church

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Let us pray for the whole people of
God in Christ Jesus and for all people
according to their needs.

Each prayer petition closes with:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION 2 Corinthians 13:14

L The peace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

LSB 332 sts. 1-8

“Savior of the Nations, Come”



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Text attributed to Ambrose of Milan 340-397AD

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