



ADVENT

IMMINENT ARRIVAL

Imminent Arrival of THE KING

First Sunday in Advent

November 30 / December 1, 2025

ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's *eternal love* for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing or sitting, will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

Restrooms: are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.

Nursery: We encourage families to worship together. If an adult needs to step out of the chapel briefly with a child, the nursery is provided just outside the chapel near the restrooms.

For Kids: Activity sheets for young children are available on the bulletin table. Small bags with quiet activity items hang near the table.

ABOUT OUR SERIES: IMMINENT ARRIVAL

The feeling when someone important is about to arrive at your place: a mixture of excitement and nervousness. *Did you make all the correct preparations? Will the person be happy to see you? When and how will the person arrive? Will there be any surprises?*

During these weeks before Christmas, we anticipate the imminent arrival of Jesus. He's an important person! We are about to celebrate his birth. He could return on judgment day at any time. And we realize that he is present with us already in his Word and sacraments. Nervousness gives way to excitement because of his imminent arrival.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE: IMMINENT ARRIVAL OF *THE KING*

The arrival of the King is a big deal. Advent ("arrival" or "coming") marks the start of a new Church Year. We begin at the end, watching King Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing full well that he will be killed before the end of the week. The events of Palm Sunday serve as a microcosm for all Jesus' work, proving the King of the universe was willing to humble himself and endure anything for our salvation. That is precisely why Christ came. That is why we anticipate his imminent arrival not with worry but with joy.

The chapel lights remain dimmed until the lighting of the advent wreath.

REMAIN SEATED

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

HYMN

309 The Advent of Our King sts. 1-4

During stanza four young children may come forward for the children's message.



- 1 The ad - vent of our King our prayers must now em - ploy,
- 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son, in flesh con - tent 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 a faith-less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.
and his true mem-bers all u - nite with him in heav'n to reign.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE and LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

We hear his call to watch.

We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

One candle is lit. The chapel lights brighten.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Children return to their seats.

STAND

CONFESSION

We begin a new church year and season of Advent awaiting the arrival of our King. Today as we confess our sins, we ask our Lord to come in power to free us—not from worldly enemies—but from the dangers of our own sins.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Yes, our King Jesus has come and has won the victory over our sins for us. He paid for our sins by his innocent suffering and death. As a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Now Jesus lives and rules over us by his divine peace until the day of his return. When he arrives, he will take us to be with him in the joys of the new heavens and the new earth.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BE SEATED

In the future, when our King arrives again, he will bring everlasting peace to Zion.

¹This is the message that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²This will take place in the latter days:

The mountain of the LORD's house will be established
as the chief of the mountains.

It will be raised above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it like a river.

³Many peoples will come and say,
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob.

Then he will instruct us about his ways,
and we will walk in his paths.”

For from Zion the law* will go out,
and the LORD's word will go out from Jerusalem.

⁴He will judge between the nations,
and he will mediate for many peoples.
Then they will beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into blades for trimming vines.

Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
nor will they learn war anymore.

⁵O house of Jacob, come,
and let us walk in the light of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

* Here *law* refers to the whole word of God.

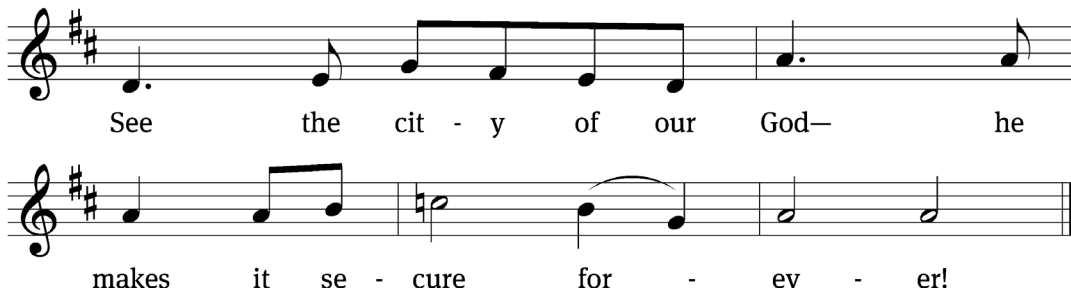
PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 48B See the City of Our God

The minister introduces the refrain. The congregation then sings the refrains.

The minister sings the verses.

Refrain



Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,

in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

Beautiful in its loftiness is Mount Zion,

the city of the Great King.

God is in her citadels;

*he has shown himself to be her fortress. **Refrain***

Walk about Zion, go around her, count her tow'rs,

consider well her ramparts,

that you may tell of them

to the next generation.

For this God is our God for ever and ever;

he will be our guide even to the end.

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. **Refrain***

PSALM 48 PRAYER

O God, you give your people safety and security. Instill in us a firm confidence that no enemy can harm us. Even if they rob us of life itself, we trust that our souls, unharmed, will rest in your heavenly fortress; in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:4–7

The arrival of our King turns our apprehension into joy.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

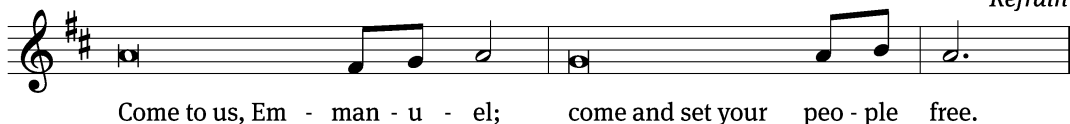
The congregation sings the verse for Advent.



Refrain



Tone



Christ our King comes humbly, willing to save us from our sin.

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²telling them, “Go to the village ahead of you. Immediately you will find a donkey tied there along with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you are to say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵Tell the daughter of Zion: Look, your King comes to you, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.[†]

⁶The disciples went and did just as Jesus commanded them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their outer clothing on them, and he sat on it. ⁸A very large crowd spread their outer clothing on the road. Others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them out on the road. ⁹The crowds who went in front of him and those who followed kept shouting,

Hosanna[‡] to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord![§]

Hosanna in the highest!

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, asking, “Who is this?”

¹¹And the crowds were saying, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

[†] Isaiah 62:11; Zechariah 9:9

[‡] *Hosanna* means *save us now*.

[§] Psalm 118:25–26

HYMN OF THE DAY

301 Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, by the
 3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child of the
 4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came and as -
 5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O
 Spir - it of our God was the Word of
 vir - gin un - de - filed, though by all the
 cend - ed to the same, cap - tive lead - ing
 God the Son, our King, praise to God the



heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
 God made flesh, wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 world dis - owned, yet to be in heav'n en - throned!
 death and hell. High the song of tri - umph swell!
 Spir - it be ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

SERMON

Isaiah 2:1-5

Peak Peace Comes from the LORD

Peace That Is Learned

Peace That Is Lived with Purpose

STAND

Our churches teach that at the end of the world Christ will appear for judgment and will raise all the dead. He will give the godly and elect eternal life and everlasting joys, but He will condemn ungodly people and the devils to be tormented without end.**

BE SEATED

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Gracious Lord, you sent your Son into our world to destroy the power of Satan and restore the human race as your children and heirs. Work in us during this Advent season so that we may rejoice in the coming of our Savior and long for his coming again.

Make us eager to receive the King who comes to save us.

Use the preaching of your holy law to rid us of all delusions that we can gain your love with our own efforts. Move us to realize how hopeless we are because of sin and to feel sorrow for what we have done wrong.

Lead us to be honest about our sinful status in your sight.

Lift up our hearts to see the King who comes to save. Reveal to us his willingness to take on our human form and stand in our place. Show us the power he extends in his Word and sacraments to make us your children and keep us in faith. Thrill us with his promise to come and take us to our eternal home to live with you forever.

Open our eyes to see and believe the wonders of the Savior's love.

Protect us from the distractions that come at this time of the year. Even in gift-giving and celebrating, keep our hearts focused on Christ and his forgiving love.

Give us joy at his coming at Christmas, his coming in the gospel, and his coming again.

** Though not included in this service, Article 17 continues by condemning false teachings related to this doctrine.

Move us to share with others the most important gift of this season, the truth about Jesus. Even in busy times lead us to pray for those whose joy is diminished because of sickness, pain, or loss. [Especially bless...] Give us opportunities to provide help to those in need. **May others see the love of Christ in our words and actions.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Loving Lord, work in us during this Advent season so that our joy may be genuine and may rest in the promises of the King who comes to save.
Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

OFFERING

The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. If being here today was a blessing to you and you would like to support our ministry, you can scan here and enter your phone number or email address to donate. (Members, please use a phone number or email address that is currently on file with the church).



During this time, we ask that everyone take part in completing the worship register. Please fill in the requested information and pass the booklet to the end of the row. Thank you!

OFFERING SONG

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel

HYMN

841 Entrust Your Fear and Doubting sts. 1-4



- 1 En - trust your fear and doubt - ing and all that pains your life
- 2 Have faith in God's vast mer - cy; con - sid - er all he's done:
- 3 In vain the pow'rs of e - vil op - pose the Lord's de - signs;
- 4 Take hope, O wea - ry spir - it, be strong and un - a - fraid;



to him whose hand is guid - ing your way thro' storm and strife.
 his might - y acts in his - t'ry, sal - va - tion he has won.
 in all of life's up - heav - al his prom - ise ev - er shines.
 God prom - is - es a res - pite for hearts that are dis - mayed.



He gov - erns times and sea - sons in ways that none can see,
 When sor - rows o - ver - whelm you and self - tor - ment - ing care,
 For God holds firm the end - ing, though now it seems un - clear;
 Your Sav - ior's per - fect tim - ing is gov - erned by his grace;



so trust his hid - den rea - sons, though dark your path may be.
 your wor - ry will not help you— ap - proach his throne in prayer.
 his pur - pose is un - bend - ing, and thus you need not fear.
 the day is sure - ly com - ing when joy will light your face.

STAND

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING RESPONSES AND BLESSING *based on John 18:37; 8:31; Numbers 6:24-26*

Jesus is King! For this reason he was born, and for this reason he came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to his voice.

If we remain in his word, we are really his disciples.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

HYMN

524 Rejoice, the Lord Is King sts. 1, 3-4



1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
3 His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come



Re - joice, give thanks and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home:



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joice!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joice!
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re-joice, a-gain I say, re - joice!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Minister: Pastor Dave Backus. Preacher: Pastor Dave Nottling
Usher: Dan Wallander (8:00), Michael LaBarge (10:45), Kurt Smith (Monday)
Lector: Dan Wallander (8:00)
Accompanist: Jake Odell

309 The Advent of Our King sts. 1–4

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt. Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–1776. Text and tune: Public domain

Psalms 48B See the City of Our God

Tune & Setting: Dale A. Witte. Music: © 2021 Dale A. Witte, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840

Gospel Acclamation

Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840

301 Savior of the Nations, Come

Text: Ambrose of Milan, 340–397, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–1876, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter. Text and tune: Public domain

Augsburg Confession, Article 17

McCain, P. T., ed. (2005). *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (p. 40). Concordia Publishing House.

841 Entrust Your Fear and Doubting sts. 1–4

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; tr. Bryan Gerlach, b. 1954. Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613. Text: © 2021 Bryan Gerlach, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840. Tune: Public domain

524 Rejoice, the Lord Is King sts. 1, 3–4

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–1789. Text and tune: Public domain

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel (Gloria)

Performed & written by Keith & Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa. Produced by Keith & Kristyn Getty, Fionán de Barra. Source: Getty Music (GTM)

Holy Bible

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