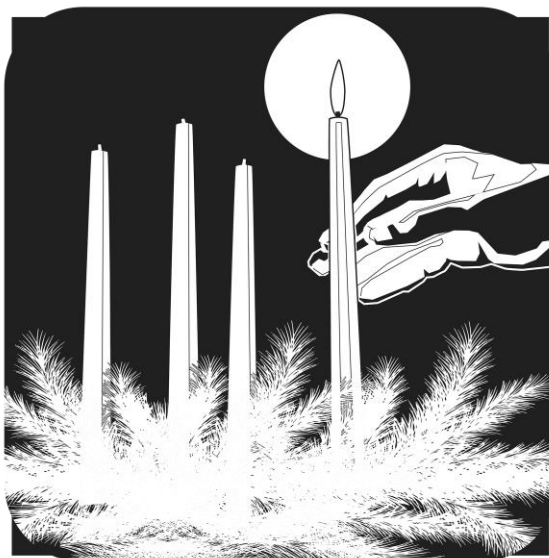


# FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*"Established Hearts" - 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13*

8:30 AM, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024



## OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL

8305 NOTTINGHAM PARKWAY  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222

Pastor: *Joshua Cook*  
TLC Coordinator: *Corrine Burmeister*  
Deaconess: *Margy Whitsett*

Principal: *Chip Davidson*  
Director of Music: *Scott Kamman*

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[www.facebook.com/OSLSLouisville](http://www.facebook.com/OSLSLouisville)

# *We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!*

*We are always glad to have you worship with us.*

*If you do not have a regular church home,  
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children’s bulletins, and large print service folders are available -- please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church’s Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

## *Prayer before worship:*

*O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.*

**AS WE GATHER** Though a full month remains before we turn our calendars to 2025, today we can wish a “happy new year” in the life of the church. The Advent season begins a new church year and is a time of preparation, as the Latin “Adventus” means an arrival or coming of someone. More than preparing for the coming of just anyone, here we prepare for our Savior. As we get hearts and minds ready for the Christmas crescendo to come celebrating Christ’s humble birth, we also remain prepared in this season and always as He promises to come again.

## **DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 1**

**Prelude and Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

## **Confession and Absolution**

Please stand.

**Invocation**

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

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

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

People: Amen.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

John 1:5, 9; Genesis 3:15; Psalm 33:20–22

Leader: Each week in Advent, we light a candle as we prepare for the arrival of the Savior, who would come to His people in human flesh and who promises to come again. In a world of darkness, a light shines. Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

People: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Leader: The first Advent candle is known as the prophecy candle or the candle of hope. We hear again the first promise and prophesy made in the Garden of Eden after the fall into sin: “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.” The Lord has kept His Word through the mouths of prophets who, for generations, pointed people to the promised Savior to come.

People: **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

Leader: Guided by the light of hope, we respond with the psalmist: “Our soul waits for the LORD;

People: **He is our help and our shield.**

Leader: For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.

People: **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.”**

The first Advent candle is lit.

**Hymn**

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

LSB 357, sts. 1, 2



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.

*Refrain*

Re - joyce! Re - joyce! Em - man - u - el  
 Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt., Tune: French, 15th cent.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Confession and Absolution**     *1 John 1:8–9; Jeremiah 33:14, 16; 1 Thessalonians 3:12–13; Luke 21:28*

**Leader:** As we begin the Advent season—a time of preparation for the coming of our Savior and a time of pondering God’s great love for us given in His Son—we also prepare ourselves to come before Him in humility and with honesty. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People:** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**Leader:** The prophet Jeremiah proclaims, “The days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made. . . . And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

**People:** **We confess we have not rightly rejoiced in the promises that the Lord made and fulfilled and have instead found our fulfillment in the temporal things of our lives and this world. We have sought our own rightness instead of the Lord’s righteousness. Forgive us.**

**Leader:** Paul prays, “May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, . . . so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus.”

**People:** **We confess our hearts are full of blame and unholiness. Our love has been misguided and our actions have been self-serving. We have not loved You with our whole heart nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us.**

**Leader:** As Jesus speaks of the time of His return, He calls His followers to “straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

**People:** **We confess we have not remained ready for Your return, nor realized time is short for the work You’ve called us to do. We have prioritized other matters instead of Your Word, relied on other things instead of Your presence, and in our thoughts, words, and actions have chosen to live our way instead of by Your commands. Forgive us.**

**Pastor:** The Lord is our righteousness. He alone establishes hearts blameless in holiness

at His coming. Redemption draws near. We are declared righteous, blameless, and redeemed because of the living, dying, and rising of our Savior, Jesus Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

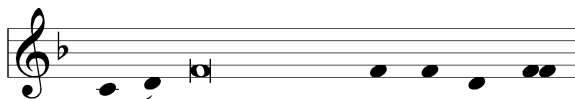
**People: Amen.**

### Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: Forgiven and reconciled to God, let us share His peace with one another.  
*We share the peace of God with those around us.*

## Service of the Word

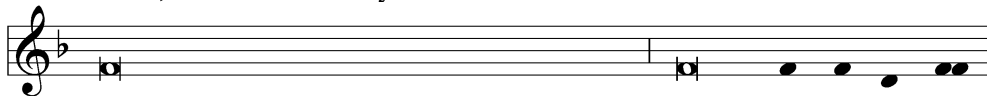
### Kyrie



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



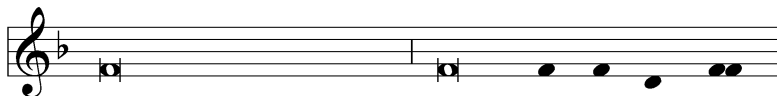
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



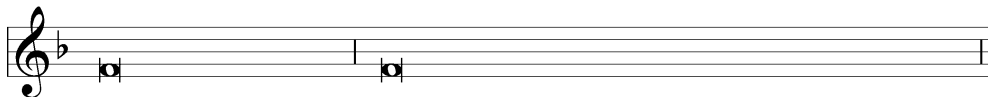
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



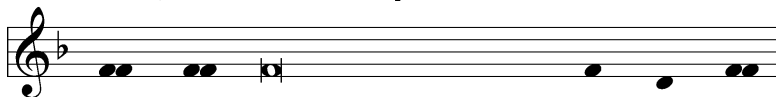
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent.*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: 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.

**People: Amen.** *Please be seated.*

### Old Testament Reading

*The Lord's eternal covenant.*

### Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reader: "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'"

Reader This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

## 1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

*Lives of the faithful made ready for Jesus' return.*

Reader: What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Reader: Please stand in reverence to the Gospel. *Please stand.*

## Alleluia and Verse

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Ready and watching for the Son of Man.*

## Luke 21:25–36

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Pastor: [Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the

kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

### Hymn of the Day

**Stanzas 1, 2, 5, 8 – ALL**

### Savior of the Nations, Come

**Stanzas 3, 6 – Women & girls**

**LSB 332**

**Stanzas 4,7 – Men & boys**

*Please stand for final Trinitarian verse. △*



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: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobier, 1973  
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter, Text (sts. 3, 6–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002236  
Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

**“Established Hearts”**

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

*Please stand.*

**Nicene Creed**

**ALL: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

*After each petition:*

**Pastor:** Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** Hear our prayer.

*The prayers conclude:*

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

**People:** Amen. *Please be seated.*

**Offering** *During this time, we invite you to sign and pass the Friendship Book. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.*

### **We believe that...**

- † *Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.*
- † *We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins."*
- † *We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.*

**Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.**

**What does this mean?**

**Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to**

participate in communion at Our Savior. Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (*indicated by folded hands*), or to remain seated for individual prayer.

† [When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.]

Stand

## Offertory

## What Shall I Render to the Lord

LSB, p. 159

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus *(sung)*

*printed music is found in LSB on p. 161*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and out of perfect love sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. We thank You for all the work of Your hands and for all the words You have spoken and kept, as You come to us still now with Your healing grace through Christ's body and blood given and shed for us.

**People: Amen.**

## The Words of Our Lord

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

*1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### Lord's Prayer

**ALL: 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.**

### Pax Domini

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



### Agnus Dei (sung)

*printed music is found in LSB on p. 163*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

### Distribution

*Please be seated. If you are communing, please follow the direction of the ushers.*



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -  
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the  
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on  
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your  
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this  
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty  
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The  
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The  
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That  
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from  
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -  
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -  
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.  
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.  
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.  
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt., Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbûchlein, 1598, Hamburg, alt.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand.*

### Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

### Closing Sentences

*John 1:5, 9*

**Pastor:** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

**People:** **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

### Benediction

**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.



A - men.

### Closing Hymn Verses Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

**LSB 353**, sts. 1, 3



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from  
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,  
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!  
Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.  
Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Silent Prayer

## Postlude

### Acknowledgments

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*Our mission is to teach, love, and connect...teach all ages about Jesus, love one another as God loves us, and connect with others in a hurting world.*

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### Readings for next week, 12/8:

**Malachi 3:1–7b**

**Psalm 66:1–12**

**Philippians 1:2–11**

**Luke 3:1–20**

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