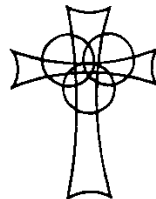




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*A Member Congregation of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

**Midweek Devotions and Bible Study
Wednesday in the Third Week of Advent
December 16, 2020**



Service of the Word in the Season of Advent

✠ In the Name of Jesus! ✠

The Opening Versicles:

Psalms 51:15 and 70:1; Isaiah 30:27; Psalm 72:19

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- P** Behold, the Name of the Lord comes from afar;
C May the whole earth be filled with His glory!
- C** 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.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

- P** ¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
- C** ²**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**
- P** then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”
³The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.
- C** ⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!**
- P** ⁵Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!
- C** ⁶**He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**
- C** **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.**

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication 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.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**



O Wisdom

O Adonai

O Root of Jesse

O Key of David

O Dayspring

O Keystone

O Emmanuel

The Scripture Study for the Day:

A Study of the Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

A Study of the Scriptures behind the Hymn and the Great O Antiphons

- Each of the stanzas and antiphons draw on images and titles found in the Old Testament and post-exilic Jewish Literature (the Apocrypha).
- In the antiphons, each of these titles are used to address and describe the Son of God, and are followed by a petition offered up to Christ to “come”.
- In the hymn version, the petition to come begins each stanza, using each of the titles, followed with a further extended petition, concluded by the Refrain: “Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel”. Knowing that the arrival of Emmanuel to the people of Israel has already occurred, the Church sings this hymn with the hope found in knowing that Christ will indeed return to His “new Israel”, which is the Church.



December 19: O Root of Jesse

O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples,
before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will
do homage:

Come quickly to deliver us.

**4. 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Isaiah 11:10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

Isaiah 45:14

Thus says the LORD:

“The wealth of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush,
and the Sabeans, men of stature,
shall come over to you and be yours;
they shall follow you;
they shall come over in chains and bow down to you.

They will plead with you, saying:

‘Surely God is in you, and there is no other,
no god besides him.’”

Isaiah 52:14-15; 53:1-3

¹⁴ As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵ so shall he sprinkle many nations.

Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

¹ Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

² For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.

³ He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces¹
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Romans 15:12

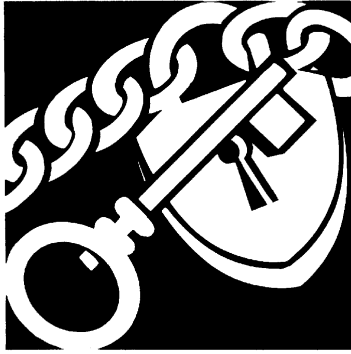
¹² And again Isaiah says,
“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

Revelation 5:6-7

⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne.

John 12:31

³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.



O KEY OF DAVID!

December 20: O Key of David

O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, You open and no one can close, You close and no one can open:

Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

**5. 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Isaiah 22:22

²² And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

Isaiah 42:7

to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Revelation 3:7-8

⁷ “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

⁸ “‘I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

Revelation 4:1

After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.”



O DAYSPRING!

December 21: O Dayspring

O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting:

Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**6. 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Malachi 4:2

² But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Luke 1:78-79

⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise shall visit us^[a] from on high
⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Isaiah 9:1

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

2 Peter 1:19

¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,

Revelation 2:28

²⁸ And I will give him the morning star.

Revelation 22:16

¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

The Prayers:

- P** Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.
- P** That God may bring in His kingdom with justice and mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- P** That God may establish among the nations His scepter of righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- P** That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize Him in the breaking of the bread, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- P** That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick and raise up all who have fallen, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- P** That the light of God's coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- P** That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights in and for the world, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us commend the world, which Christ will judge, to the mercy and protection of God.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer:

- P** Awaiting His coming in glory, let us pray with confidence as our Savior Christ has taught us:
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.**

The Collect of the Day:

- P** Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace:

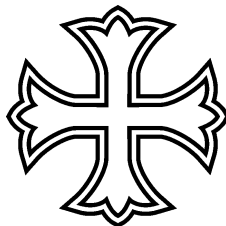
- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

The Closing Prayer:

- P** Together we pray:
- C** **Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Benediction:

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** **Amen.**



If you were unable to send questions to Pastor Schiebel via messaging during the Facebook Live video, you can email your questions to him at trinity-elc-pastor@verizon.net.

Acknowledgments

Brief Service of the Word from Lutheran Service Book Agenda and from Common Worship: Daily Prayer.

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