

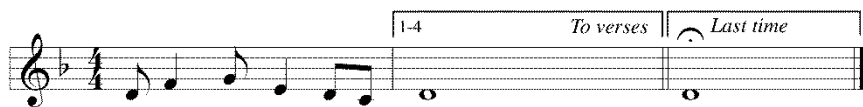
The Season Advent is a season of preparation and anticipation. The Church looks for the coming of her Savior in this threefold advent: his coming in the flesh; his return in judgment; his daily coming in Word and Sacrament. A single word that defines Advent worship: “Come!” Throughout the prayers, verses, and lessons that single word is our invitation, our anticipation, our sure and certain hope. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Sunday Behold! God will come to save his people, just as he promised. He saves them through the virgin born Son of David who is also the Son of God, Immanuel. Since the Garden, there has been only one promised plan to do that: God would take on flesh and blood. Immanuel comes—God in the flesh—exactly as promised to save his people.

Hymn *My Soul in Stillness Waits* CWS 703



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits,



tru-ly my hope is in you. you.



Verses

1	O Lord of Light,	our on - ly hope of
2	O Spring of Joy,	rain down up - on our
3	O Root of Life,	im - plant your seed with -
4	O Key of Know -	ledge, guide us in our



glo - ry,	Your ra-diance shines	in all who look to
spir - its.	Our thirs - ty hearts	are yearn - ing for your
in us,	And in your ad -	vent draw us all to
pil-grim-age,	We ev - er seek,	yet un - ful - filled re -



To Refrain

you.	Come, light the hearts	of all in dark and sha-dow.
Word.	Come, make us whole,	be com-fort to our hearts.
you,	Our hope re - born	in dy - ing and in ris - ing.
main.	O - pen to us	the path-way of your peace.

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Tune: MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS (11 10 11 and Refrain) Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**Morrison Zion
Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod



**MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN**

Our mission is to

Glorify God

as we

Gather

around the Gospel

to help people

Grow

in the Gospel

and

Go

with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

GATHERING RITE

M: We wait in hope for the LORD ; he is our help and our shield.

C: In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

M: May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you (Ps 33:20-23)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;

C: according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions

M: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.(Ps 51:1-2; 32:1)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?

C: But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

M: I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. (Ps 130:3-5)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

C: Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

M: He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins. (Ps 130:6-8)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: My heart is not proud, LORD, my eyes are not haughty; I do not concern myself with great matters or things too wonderful for me

C: But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content.

M: Israel, put your hope in the LORD both now and forevermore. (Ps 131)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you

always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Be Seated

THE WORD

First Lesson

Isaiah 7:1-17

When the people of Judah heard that Aram and Ephraim had allied against them, they were shaken. No wonder! Under King Ahaz, Judah had already lost in battle to Aram—with many prisoners carried away. They had also lost to the Northern Kingdom under Pekah. In a single day Pekah killed 120,000 soldiers. He also captured 200,000 wives, sons and daughters. The magnitude of this defeat must have weighed heavily on the national consciousness. And now, Aram and Ephraim had joined forces to attack Judah; Judah had no chance whatsoever! Until God spoke and said, “It will not take place, it will not happen.” God will save his people, just as he promised. The enemies stacked against the people of God have proven impossible for us to withstand. The devil, the world, and our sinful flesh have defeated us again and again. We stand no chance in the battle; we must be lost. Until God speaks and says, “It will not take place, it will not happen.” Immanuel has come, just as God promised—the Savior of his people.

7 When Ahaz son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel marched up to fight against Jerusalem, but they could not overpower it.

2 Now the house of David was told, “Aram has allied itself with Ephraim”; so the hearts of Ahaz and his people were shaken, as the trees of the forest are shaken by the wind.

3 Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out, you and your son Shear-Jashub, to meet Ahaz at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, on the road to the Launderer’s Field. **4** Say to him, ‘Be careful, keep calm and don’t be afraid. Do not lose heart because of these two smoldering stubs of firewood—because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and of the son of Remaliah. **5** Aram, Ephraim and Remaliah’s son have plotted your ruin, saying, **6** “Let us invade Judah; let us tear it apart and divide it among ourselves, and make the son of Tabeel king over it.” **7** Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says:

“It will not take place,
it will not happen,

8 for the head of Aram is Damascus,
and the head of Damascus is only Rezin.

Within sixty-five years

Ephraim will be too shattered to be a people.

9 The head of Ephraim is Samaria,
and the head of Samaria is only Remaliah’s son.

If you do not stand firm in your faith,
you will not stand at all.”

10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, **11** “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? **14** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

15 He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose

the right, ¹⁶ for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. ¹⁷ The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah—he will bring the king of Assyria.” (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24 CW

Refrain



Let the Lord en-ter; he is the King of glo-ry.

Psalm tone *



The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it,*
the world, and all who live in it;

for he founded it upon the seas*
and established it upon the waters.

Who may ascend the hill of the LORD?*

Who may stand in his holy place?

He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*
he will receive blessing from God his Savior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, O you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?*
The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,*
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is he, this King of glory?*
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

**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

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Second Lesson

Romans 1:1-7

After thousands of years of God's promises, Paul looks back and sees every one of them kept in Christ. All of Scripture promised the gospel message summarized in the name: Jesus Christ our Lord. Jesus, the man born of Mary, is also our Lord, God himself. This God-man was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power to be the Christ who would save God's people from their sins. Any doubts about Jesus of Nazareth evaporated with the Easter morning dew: the resurrection declared to the world he was Immanuel, God with us. God kept every promise in Christ to give us what we so desperately needed: Grace and peace to you from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

⁷To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia. (Matthew 1:23)

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph found himself in the middle of an unwelcome nightmare: his bride to be was pregnant, and he was not the father. As a righteous man, he could not go forward with the marriage; as a merciful man, he could not expose Mary to public disgrace. How long did it take for him to fall asleep with broken betrothal promises on his mind? During the night, Joseph sees an angel who calls him "the son of David." Joseph's father was Jacob, but the angel reminded Joseph that he was a descendant of kings. Starting this night, he would act as one of David's line again: he would care for the promised Son who would reign on David's throne. God had come to save his people, just as he promised. He would do it through the child in Mary's womb. Joseph believed the promises of God kept in Christ and named the child, "The LORD saves," knowing full well he was Immanuel.

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel CW 23



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's
3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your
4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,
draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

Sermon

Isaiah 7:1-17

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,**

and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

- M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.
- C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**
- M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.
- C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."**
- M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.
- C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**
- M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.
- C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow

on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen

Be Seated

Hymn

Rise, Arise CW 30



1 Rise, a - rise! Rise, a - rise! Chris-tians, rise to
2 Oh, re - joice! Oh, re - joice! Christ has come as
3 Crown him King! Crown him King! His ex - alt - ed



greet your King. O - pen wide the gates be - fore him;
long fore - told. The Mes - si - ah long - ex - pect - ed,
name con - fess. From his heav'n - ly throne de - scend - ing,



Let the glad ho - san - nas ring; Haste to wor - ship
The in - car - nate Word be - hold! Though by earth - ly
Je - sus, Lord our right - eous - ness, Brings us joy and



and a - dore him. Hark! The watch - man on the moun - tain
kings re - ject - ed, Hail him Lord of all with might - y
peace un - end - ing. Oh, let heart and tongue his prais - es



cries: Rise, a - rise! Rise, a - rise!
voice. Oh, re - joice! Oh, re - joice!
sing! Crown him King! Crown him King!

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Tune: FAHRE FORT (67 87 89 6) Johann E. Schmidt, 1670–1745, alt.