

Midweek Advent Week 4
Robed in Righteousness



December 20, 2023
Morrison Zion Lutheran Church



**MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN**

Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod

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.

The Clothing of the King – Robed in Righteousness

This midweek Advent Sermon Series tells the stories of the clothing of the King. Stories that describe a wardrobe at once splendid and sin-stained, with fabrics that reveal who we are and cover us all the same. The clothing of the King is tattered and worn and glorious in its incorruptibility. It isn't ours, yet he gives it to us freely.

Gathering Rite
My Soul in Stillness Waits CWS 703

Stand

Refrain

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of glo - ry,

your ra-diance shines in all who look to you; come, light the

hearts of all in dark and shad-ow.

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)

Refrain

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly 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)

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)

Refrain

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,

and in your ad - vent draw us all to you, our hope re -

born in dy - ing and in ris - ing.

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)

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)

Refrain

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

M: We light four Advent candles, remembering Jesus the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

C: We remember Jesus whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.

M: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

C: We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Four Advent candles are lit.



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

Reading

Isaiah 61:1-3,6-8,10-11

Isaiah prophecies about what our coming Savior will bring us. Jesus references part of this chapter concerning himself. Because of Christ we will have joy and peace. We will be clothed in righteousness and salvation.

- ¹The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,
because the Lord has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
³and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the Lord
for the display of his splendor.
⁶And you will be called priests of the Lord,
you will be named ministers of our God.
You will feed on the wealth of nations,
and in their riches you will boast.
⁷Instead of your shame
you will receive a double portion,
and instead of disgrace
you will rejoice in your inheritance.

And so you will inherit a double portion in your land,
and everlasting joy will be yours.

⁸ "For I, the Lord, love justice;

I hate robbery and wrongdoing.

In my faithfulness I will reward my people
and make an everlasting covenant with them.

¹⁰ I delight greatly in the Lord;

my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations. (NIV)

Hymn

O Jesus, Lamb of God You Are CW 27



1 O Je - sus, Lamb of God, you are My com - fort
2 O Lord, my sin in - deed is great; I groan be -
3 Saint John the Bap - tist points to you And bids me
4 Help me to change my ways, O Lord, And glad - ly



and my guid - ing star; I come, a sin - ner,
neath the dread - ful weight. Be mer - ci - ful to
cast my sin on you, For you have left your
to o - bey your Word. While here I live, a -



trust - ing - ly And bring my man - y sins with me.
me, I pray; Take guilt and pun - ish - ment a - way.
throne on high To suf - fer for the world and die.
bide with me, Then take me home e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: WEIMAR (LM) C. P. E. Bach, 1714–88.

Devotion:

Robed in Righteousness.

Exodus 28:15-30

¹⁵ You shall make a chest pouch to be used for making decisions, the work of a skillful craftsman. You shall make it with the same workmanship as the vest. Make it from gold and from blue, purple, and scarlet material and from fine woven linen. ¹⁶ It is to be square when it is folded, nine inches by nine inches. ¹⁷ You shall arrange settings for precious stones on it, four rows of stones: The first row is to be carnelian, diamond, and jacinth; ¹⁸ the second row agate, sapphire, and emerald; ¹⁹ the third row beryl, jasper, and ruby; ²⁰ and the fourth row topaz, onyx, and turquoise. They are to be mounted in gold settings. ²¹ There are to be twelve stones corresponding to the names of the sons of Israel. Each one shall be like an engraved seal, each with the name of one of the twelve tribes.

²² You shall make braided chains of pure gold as cords for the pouch. ²³ Make two gold rings for the pouch, and attach the two rings to the top corners of the pouch. ²⁴ Put the two braided chains of gold into the two rings at the top corners of the pouch. ²⁵ Attach the other ends of the two braided chains to the two settings, and then attach them to the shoulder straps on the front of the vest. ²⁶ Make two rings of gold, and put them on the two lower corners of the pouch, on its inside edge, which is toward the vest. ²⁷ Make two more gold rings, and attach them to the two shoulder straps of the vest in the front, close to the bottom where it is joined to the band of the vest. ²⁸ Tie the rings on the pouch to the rings on the vest with a blue cord, so that the pouch is right next to the band of the vest, so that the pouch does not swing out from the vest. ²⁹ Whenever he goes into the Holy Place, Aaron shall wear the pouch for making decisions, which bears the names of the sons of Israel, over his heart as a constant memorial before the Lord. ³⁰ You shall put the Urim and the Thummim into the pouch for making decisions, and they shall be over Aaron's heart whenever he goes before the Lord. Aaron shall bear the means of making decisions for the people of Israel on his heart before the Lord continually. (EHV)

Offering

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Stand

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Prayer

M: Dear Jesus, we look forward to your second Christmas. It will take place with your holy angels surrounding you and they will again sing – proclaiming “victory, rescue and good news” to all the world. It will be a moment of unparalleled peace and joy for us who look to you in faith.

Forgiven by your grace, washed in your holy blood, kept alive by your Word and Sacrament – stir in us a great desire to break our own silence to share your peace with others who don’t yet believe in you. Stir in us a great desire to love our neighbor as you have loved us.

Jesus, we know you keep all your promises. And so we wait, we keep watch with spiritual vigilance, and we put our hope in you. Hear us as we join to pray:

Luther’s Morning Prayer (*morning only*) *spoken in unison*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther’s Evening Prayer (*evening only*) *spoken in unison*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Blessing

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

C: Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

Once in Royal David's City CW 50



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
3 But our eyes at last shall see him through his own re -
4 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble with the ox - en



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our
stand - ing by shall we see him, but in heav - en, set at



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and
Lord in heav'n a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren
God's right hand on high. Then like stars his chil - dren



mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
on to the place where he is gone.
crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, abr., alt.
Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876
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My Soul in Stillness Waits

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