



Third
Sunday
of

Advent



WELCOME

“What Child Is This”

LSB 370

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to
sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let
shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the
Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(based on Isaiah 9)*

- L:** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light!
- P:** **For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;**
- L:** And He is called Wonderful Counselor, Might God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
- P:** **His kingdom, established with justice and righteousness, will never end**

L: The zeal of the Lord Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit will accomplish this.
P: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND FORGIVENESS: *(based on Isaiah 53)*

L: We all like sheep have gone astray,

P: Each of us has turned to His own way

L: and the LORD has laid on Christ the iniquity of us all.

P: Forgive us Lord,

L: For we have not love you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

P: And the LORD has laid on Christ the iniquity of us all. Forgive us Lord,

L: For we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed,

P: And the LORD has laid on Christ the iniquity of us all. Forgive us Lord,

L: For we have sinned against You in what we have done and in what we have left undone.

P: And the LORD has laid on Christ my iniquity.

moment of silent reflection

L: Jesus has taken up your infirmities and carried your sorrows. He was pierced for your transgressions and crushed for your iniquities; the punishment that brings you peace was upon him, for by His wounds you are healed and your sin forgiven. Amen.

RESPONSIVE SONG: “Jesus Coming Light”

Verse 1

Jesus Coming Light draw near
And spark within us hope
Though shadows fight with all their might
They'll never overcome
In brilliance you don't come to blind
But only that the blind would see *Refrain*

Refrain:

Hosanna Hallelujah
Jesus Coming Light draw near

Verse 2

Jesus Coming Light draw near
And spark within us peace
May your children gather in its glow
Warmth bids all come and see
When you return we'll need no sun
But only Word made Flesh to shine *Refrain*

Verse 3

Jesus Coming Light draw near
And spark within us joy
As a humble hearth You come to dwell
Not speeding to destroy
Gladden hearts and brighten eyes
Like sparkled rays in winter's dark *Refrain*

Verse 4

Jesus Coming Light draw near
And spark within us love
Heart of Heaven lay among the low
In the star glow from above
With love illuminate your Church
That every soul would know its worth *Refrain*

LITANY OF JOY AND WREATH LIGHTING:

L: Jesus Joy of human desiring
P: When we are overwhelmed, hurt or jealous

L: Come be our Joy Lord Jesus.

P: **When we are confused, tired or in doubt**

L: Come be our Joy Lord Jesus

P: **When we are weak, lonely or discouraged**

L: Come be our Joy Lord Jesus, at this moment, in days to come and to the end of the age

ALL: Come be our Joy Lord Jesus.

SONG: “Come to Us O Lord”

Verse 1

O living Word please come and dwell in us
Lord wipe away these tears
O Ancient Son so long foretold
We're desperate souls draw near

Chorus 1

And we will stand securely
In the strength of the Lord
Every heart will surely come
And adore The Great I Am

Verse 2

Our Shepherd King please come and dwell with us
To fields of grace lead on

Chorus 2

And we will stand securely
In the strength of the Lord
Every heart will surely come
And adore The Great I Am
We need You now
Break our chains by Your glory and power
Make us captive to a holy desire
Come to us O Lord come to us O Lord

Bridge

Prince of Peace Emmanuel
Lord draw us close unto Thyself
King of kings God's chosen One
We need You now to Thee we run

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Isaiah 35:1-10*

The desert and the dry land will be glad,
and the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like a lily the land will blossom.
It will rejoice and sing with joy.
It will have the glory of Lebanon, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
Everyone will see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.
Strengthen limp hands.
Steady weak knees.
Tell those who are terrified,
“Be brave; don’t be afraid.
Your God will come with vengeance, with divine revenge.
He will come and rescue you.”

Then the eyes of the blind will be opened,
and the ears of the deaf will be unplugged.
Then those who are lame will leap like deer,
and those who cannot speak will shout for joy.
Water will gush out into the desert,
and streams will gush out into the wilderness.
Then the hot sand will become a pool,
and dry ground will have springs.
Grass will become cattails and rushes
in the home of jackals.
A highway will be there, a roadway.
It will be called the Holy Road.
Sinners won’t travel on it.
It will be for those who walk on it.
Godless fools won’t wander onto it.
Lions won’t be there.
Wild animals won’t go on it.
They won’t be found there.
But the people reclaimed by the Lord will walk on it.
The people ransomed by the Lord will return.
They will come to Zion singing with joy.
Everlasting happiness will be on their heads as a crown.
They will be glad and joyful.
They will have no sorrow or grief.-GW®

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG: “Arise”

Verse 1

Let every valley be raised up
And every lowly heart be filled
Arise and wipe away your tears
For your eyes shall see the Lord revealed

Verse 2

Let every mountain be made low
Cast down your trust in might and gold
And crown yourself with humble faith
That your God provides a truer hope

Chorus

Arise arise awake your soul
In the glory of the coming Lord
Rejoice rejoice prepare the way
For the One who comes in power to save

Verse 3

Make straight the road to Bethlehem
That marches on to Calvary
The King is on His way to save
He the rescue in our deepest need

Verse 4

All those who wander without home
Striving in the wilderness
He is not far He is not far
You will soon behold God's very face

REFLECTION: “Arise” *from Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb*

SONG OF THE DAY: “We will Feast”

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

Verse 1

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld protected gathered up

Verse 2

In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long
Oh God of Jacob be my strength

Verse 3

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom

CONFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED: (**catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy *catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maralee at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

CONSECRATION OF GIFTS:

- L:** Stir up the will of all who look to You Lord.
P: **and through our gifts fund ministry that strengthens our faith in Your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in Your ways.**
L: For You rule and reign One God now and forever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

- L:** Christ Jesus, Lord and Savior, come, we open wide our hearts, Your home. Oh enter with Your radiant grace, on our lives patterns shine Your face, and let Your Holy Spirit guide to gracious vistas right and wide.
P: **Our God, we praise Your name, forevermore the same.**

CLOSING SONG: “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Verse 1

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

POSTLUDE



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"What Child is This" LSB 370

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"Jesus, Coming Light"

CCLI #7188228 Shelly Sue Schwalm

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"Come to Us O Lord"

CCLI Song # 6507066 Eric J. Marshall

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"Arise"

CCLI Song #7245921 Anna Gruen| Colby Key| Nick Taylor

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"We Will Feast in the House of Zion"

CCLI Song # 7041364 Joshua Moore | Sandra McCracken

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"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" LSB 338

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SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Preacher...Pastor Kevin Kritzer
Lector...Shannon Morgensen
Keyboard...Pat Gagan

Artist in Residence...Blake Flattley
Percussion...Athanasius Birsinger



If You're a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany's fillable information form.



Christmas Eve Worship Services:

Wednesday, December 24th

Family Evening Services at 3:00 and 5:00 PM

Christmas Eve Festival Worship Service at 11:00 PM

Christmas Day at Bethany:

Thursday, December 25th

Festival Worship with Holy Communion at 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH AT 6:30 PM

————— *A Cozy Christmas with Tanner Olson & Blake Flattley*

Join poet Tanner Olson and songwriter Blake Flattley for A Cozy Christmas - an evening of storytelling, poetry, and music to warm your heart this holiday season. Gather with friends, sip something festive, and celebrate hope, joy, and wonder through the words and songs that capture the true spirit of Christmas.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 2 PM & THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 6:30 PM

————— *A Christmas Program: The Mystery of Simon Shepherd*

Come join us to watch Bethany Lutheran's 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students' performance of "The Mystery of Simon Shepherd." Clever and touching songs are woven together with entertaining dialog and a plot with surprise twists...with a beautiful conclusion which really brings the heart of the Christmas story to the center.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

"IT SHALL COME TO PASS" There are 16 Prophetic Books in the Old Testament named after the prophet who authored them. There are a couple dozen other prophets spoken about throughout the Old Testament. Yet, when someone says, "the Prophet," they are undoubtedly speaking about Isaiah. The prophet Isaiah proclaims the Peace, Paradise, and the Presence of God shall come to pass in His Advent.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH AT 8, 9:30 & 11 AM

Isaiah 2:1-5

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH AT 8, 9:30 & 11 AM

Isaiah 11:1-10

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH AT 9:30 AM ONLY

————— We will have a single Advent service at 9:30 am, a time of reflection and anticipation as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Through prayer, scripture, readings, and song, we'll rest in God's presence and embrace the hope, peace, joy, and the love of the season.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH AT 3 & 7 PM

————— *54th Annual Christmas Concert - "O Holy Night"*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST AT 8, 9:30 & 11 AM

Isaiah 7:7-10