

# Amazing Grace Lutheran Church

## Sunday, December 04, 2022

### The Second Sunday in Advent

#### Ringing of the Bell

**Prelude: Bethlehem Calls: An Advent Reflection**      **Brian Gibson**

*Prepare Ye the Way, Ben Logan; I Wonder As I Wander, Christina Brown; Lo, How a Rose, Dan Chadburn*

#### Welcome

Come Now, O Prince of Peace! The season of Advent is one of longing and anticipation. We long for the day when peace will reign on earth as in heaven. We anticipate the inbreaking of Christ, the Prince of Peace. This season, Isaiah and Matthew will help us express our longing and hopeful anticipation.

#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath Advent 2

Reader: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. A voice cries out: Prepare the way of the Lord...make paths straight. Valleys and mountains shall stand side by side. God's glory is about to be revealed to all humankind.

We light the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Candle as a sign of peace in a world broken by violence and injustice. God's Messiah is on his way. Repent....be forgiven of your sins...be washed in the waters of baptism...share in God's transforming grace.

## Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240



Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He \_\_\_ shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead \_\_\_ them home - ward.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

TIF IN VELDELE

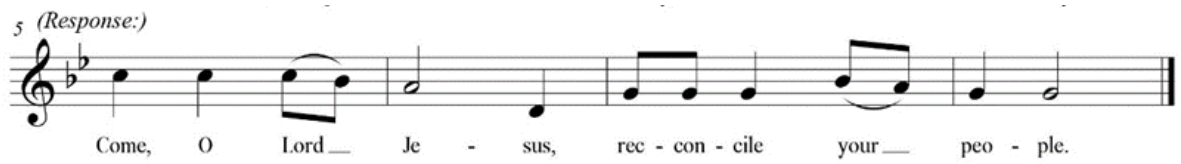
Music: Yiddish folk tune

10 7 96

Reader: In a world where so many experience war, violence and abuse.

**Response:**

5 (Response:)



Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - con - cile your peo - ple.

Text: Geon-yong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
Text © Geonyong Lee.

Reader: In a world where peace seems to be so far away, we call upon you, Prince of Peace, to come.

**Response:**

5 (Response:)



Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - con - cile your peo - ple.

Text: Geon-yong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
Text © Geonyong Lee.

Reader: In this season of Advent, we wait for the coming of Peace into our world. We await the birth of Emmanuel, God with us, who comes into our lives in a new way.

**Response:**

5 (Response:)



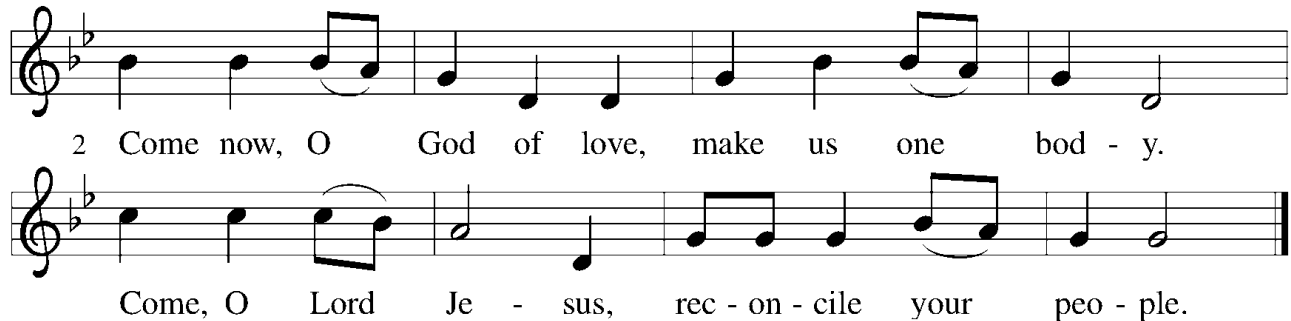
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - con - cile your peo - ple.

Text: Geon-yong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
Text © Geonyong Lee.

**ELW 247 Come now, O Prince of Peace (verse 2)**

1. Instrumental 2. Song Leaders 3. Congregation

**Come Now, O Prince of Peace**



2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope  
Music: OSOSÓ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947  
Text and music © Geonyong Lee

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

who alone does wondrous things.

**Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of new beginnings,

**we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.**

**We have strayed from your paths.**

**We prepare for war instead of peace.**

**We dishonor one another and your creation.**

**Purify us with your refining fire**

**and set us again on your way of love,**

**that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,**

**and welcome your coming among us.**

**Amen.**

People of God,

a new thing is growing in our midst,

a tender branch,

a living sign.

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on † Christ,

and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The Baptism of Bradley David Phillips**

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Congregational Response: Welcome to the body of Christ! Together we will seek to be in healthy relationships with God, our neighbors throughout the world, and creation itself. We promise to walk with you through your life of faith as we discover together what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ, joining together to serve the world around us. Thanks be to God!**

**Baptismal Hymn: Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death ELW 452**  
Verse 3: Low Voices

### Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,  
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984  
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829  
Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

### Greeting

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus**

**Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10**

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

<sup>1</sup>A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup>The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia!

**Alleluia!**

Prepare the way of the Lord.

**All flesh shall see the salvation of God.**

Alleluia!  
**Alleluia!**

### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup>This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’ ”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit worthy of repentance. <sup>9</sup>Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Message**

**Pastor Tim Maybee**

# Hymn of the Day: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (HYFRYDOL)

## Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Words by  
Charles Wesley

Music by  
Rowland Hugh Prichard

♩=90

VERSE

F C F B $\flat$ /F F C Dm C F/A C $^7$ /G F F/A



1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy  
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

7 B $\flat$  C F F C F B $\flat$ /F F C Dm C



peo - ple free; From our fears \_\_\_ and sins re - lease \_\_\_ us,  
yet \_\_\_ a King; Born to reign \_\_\_ in us for - ev - er,

13 F/A C $^7$ /G F F/A B $\flat$  C F Am Dm



let us find our rest \_\_\_ in Thee. Is - rael's strength \_\_\_ and  
now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own \_\_\_ e -

19 Gm C F Dm Gm C<sup>sus</sup> C



con - so - la - tion, hope of all \_\_\_ the earth \_\_\_ Thou art;  
-ter - nal Spir - it rule in all \_\_\_ our hearts - a - lone;

25 F/A F B $\flat$ /F C/E F G $^7$ /D C/E



Dear \_\_\_ de - sire \_\_\_ of ev' - ry na - tion,  
By \_\_\_ Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it,

29 F F/A B $\flat$  F/C C $^7$  F



joy of ev' - ry long - ing heart.  
raise us to \_\_\_ Thy glo - rious throne.

CCLI Song # 31999

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## **Watchful Waiting**

*Use this extended time of silence to breathe, listen, and open yourself to the God who comes to us in the person of Christ.*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You give us a vision of creation in harmony, when hurting and destruction will be no more. Teach us to be stewards of the earth and companions to its creatures.

Restore to balance and wholeness what human greed has harmed. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves.

God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **Offering**

*AGLC gives in the style of our Tanzanian partners. You may place any gift in the basket as you come forward for communion. If you don't have a physical gift to share, you are encouraged to dip your hand in the basket as a reminder that God uses you to do God's work in the world.*



# Offering Song: Now the Heavens Start to Whisper ACS 901

## Verses 1, 3

### Now the Heavens Start to Whisper



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.  
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.  
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:  
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.  
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!  
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.  
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.  
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.  
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody  
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### Offering Prayer

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **Holy Communion**

### **Thanksgiving**

We praise you, living and loving God, that you have sent your Son to this world. Christ is your Wisdom, sweetly ordering all creation, our Lawgiver, burning with justice, the Branch from Jesse's tree, sprouting flowers from old roots, the Key of David, opening our prison doors.

Let the people cry, Come now, O Prince of Peace!

**Come now, O Prince of Peace!**

### **Jesus' Invitation**



3. So, we thank You for \_ the wine \_ and for the bread; \_ For we

see the life \_ You gave \_ and the blood You \_ shed. And we re -

-mem - ber Your won - drous \_ love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your \_

blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous \_

love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your \_ blood.

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### **Lord's Prayer**

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **Call to the Table**

*Amazing Grace Lutheran Church practices open communion. All are welcome. No exceptions.*

P: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God who has come to save you!

## Distribution

P: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*The wine used in worship is alcohol-free. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.*

## Communion Song(s):

**In Silence We Wait ELW 998** (*Sing two times, "oo" or hum third time*)

### In Silence We Wait

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the hymn 'In Silence We Wait'. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics 'In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'come to us; bring us your light.' are written below the second staff.

Text: Susan Masters, b. 1957  
Music: IN SILENCE WE WAIT, Susan Masters  
Text and music © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

**Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming  
O Day of Peace**

**ELW 272  
ELW 711**

## Prayer after Communion

Faithful God,  
in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

## Announcements

### Benediction

God the eternal Word,  
who dwells with us in Jesus,  
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
Amen.

# Sending Hymn: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding ELW 246

Verse 3: High Voices

## Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we  
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age  
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don  
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is  
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,  
let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,  
down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,  
wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy  
and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"  
shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
one and all, to be for - giv'n;  
and with words of love draw near.  
while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878  
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

### Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Let There Be Peace on Earth

Lorie Line