

Worship Resource Advent 1 (Sunday, November 28, 2021)

Thanks for joining us in worship today! If you are worshipping online, be sure to fill out the digital connection card.

Getting Reading for Worship

As you get ready for worship, you will want to have:

1. Your Bible. We will be reading these passages: Jeremiah 33:14-16, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36.
2. A Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW, or "the green book"), if you have one. We will sing hymn #25 ("Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"). A With One Voice (WOV, "the blue book"), if you have one. We will sing hymn #642 ("I Wonder as I Wander").
3. The elements for Holy Communion. We encourage you to strive for a bread product and something in the "fruit of the vine" category.
4. The worship service will be broadcast on YouTube. You will find links to both on the home page of the Grace website (www.grace-nalc.org).

Prelude: *Andante* Charles Wesley, arr. L. N. Porter
Now Thank We All Our God David H. Hegarty
Come, Long-Awaited Savior David Paxton

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (*shared responsively*)

- P: Light one candle as we watch for Messiah:
C: Let its light banish the darkness, for He is the light of the world.
P: When He comes He will bring salvation to His faithful people.
C: Rejoice! For our God fulfills His promises.
All: Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus!

Opening Hymn: *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers* (LBW #25)

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.
2. The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the bridegroom near;
Go forth as he approaches With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; The bridegroom is at hand.
3. The saints, who here in patience Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before him Their diadems of gold.
4. Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption That sets your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, tr. Sarah B. Findlater Tune: Swedish folk tune Reprinted with permission CCLI License #2861403

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

P: Kyrie eleison C: Lord, have mercy.
P: Christe eleison C: Christ, have mercy.
P: Kyrie eleison C: Lord, have mercy.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
 We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
 You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.
 For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord,
 You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 In the glory of God the Father, Amen.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.
And peace to God's people on earth.

Holy Scripture: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

¹⁵ "In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line;

 he will do what is just and right in the land.

¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved
 and Jerusalem will live in safety.

This is the name by which it will be called:

 The Lord Our Righteous Savior.'

Holy Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us

to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³² "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁴ "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

Musical Offering: *Prepare the Way!*

Thomas Helmore, arr. Lloyd Larson
Sanctuary Choir

The Nicene Creed

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 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

The Giving of Your Tithes and Offerings

We encourage you to participate in the offering as you worship from your home. Have a designated basket where you place your offering, and include your children in the process. Let them serve as ushers, for example. Use this as a teaching time to talk about the importance of stewardship, and to pray for your church's financial situation during these abnormal times. Here are a few giving options for you to consider:

1. Your Grace offering envelope is also a mailing envelope. We recommend added an additional piece of tape to secure the tab.
2. Give through the Grace app. It's quick, simple and easy, and very secure. Connect through the "Give" option.
3. Use the "bill pay" option through your bank.
4. Arrange for automatic contributions through the Grace system (Vanco). Again this is very secure. There is a form to be filled out for this. Contact Church Administrator Darla Kalifoot (937-399-6257) to get this set up.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you!
C: And also with you!
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

At the pastor's direction, share the communion elements with one another.
As you share the bread with one another, say "The body of Christ given for you."
As you share the cup with one another, say "The blood of Christ shed for you."

Musical Offering: *Prince of Peace You Are* Robert Gay

Give Thanks Henry Smith, Mark Grimes, pianist

Hymn: *I Wonder as I Wander (WOV #642)*

1. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
How Jesus the Savior did come for to die for poor ord'n'ry people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.
2. When Mary birthed Jesus, all in a cow's stall,
came wise men and farmers and shepherds and all, and high from the heavens a
star's light did fall; the promise of the ages, it then did recall.
3. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
he surely could have had it, 'cause he was the king.
4. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die for poor ord'n'ry people like you and like I.
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

Text: Appalachian carol, collected by John Jacob Niles
Reprinted with permission, CCLI License #2861403

Tune: Appalachian folk tune, adapt John Jacob Niles

Postlude *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* Roberta Rowland-Raybold

Other Notes:

- Throughout the service, feel free to stand whenever doing so would enhance your worship experience.
- As you share the peace, consider sending a text of peace to someone who also may be sheltered in a different place. Stay connected!