



**The King
Shall Come**
An Advent Worship Series

ADVENT 1

THE KING IS COMING TO SAVE US!

December 3, 2023



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

God's Word for This Week

Rulers plan and administrate and govern. They typically do not save. They are not people who risk their lives for those in distress. If your house is on fire, it will not be the mayor who shows up to save you from the flames. If America were attacked (God forbid), the President would not pick up a weapon, go to the front lines, and fight to save you from the enemy. Jesus is different. He is both infinitely greater than all other rulers, yet also infinitely more humble. He does not consider it beneath his rank as King to give up his life for his subjects. He is (and was) willing to fight for us. He is (and was) willing to die for us. For King Jesus came into our world for one reason: to save us. King Jesus is coming back into our world for one reason: to save us and bring us home.

Before Worship

Take time for prayer and to review the lessons and the service notes.

General Information

The restrooms are located in the fellowship hall. Visitors – welcome, and please take a moment and sign the guestbook in the fellowship hall.

Serving in Worship

Music: Rachel Halldorson
Ushers: Mike Jensen, Kurt Knurr
Pastor: Wayne Halldorson
Pastor's Cell: 903-717-1922
Pastor's Email: grace.tx.pastor@gmail.com

Church Information

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Prayer Requests: prayers.grace.wels@gmail.com
text to 520-236-9673

T-Loop Hearing Assistance

If you have a hearing aid with a T-coil, you can connect it to the T-Loop device installed throughout the church building. Headsets are available for anyone needing hearing assistance. Personal ear-buds can also be used with a head set. See Kris Martinson if you need assistance.



ADVENT 1 WORSHIP SERVICE

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The first Advent candle is called the candle of Prophecy. It symbolized the Old Testament prophecies of the Advent, or coming, of the world's Savior.

You came first in humility to save us dear Lord, come again in glory to bring us home according to your promise – amen.

 *The First Advent Candle is Lit:*

309 The Advent of Our King

CW 309 sts. 1–3



- 1 The ad - vent of our King our prayers must now em - ploy,
- 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son, in flesh con - tent to be,
- 3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise to meet your low - ly King,



and we must hymns of wel - come sing in strains of ho - ly joy.
him - self a ser - vant's form puts on to set his ser - vants free.
nor let a faith - less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.

Text: tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Opening Blessing

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

And also with you.

Confession & Absolution

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask Him to forgive us, in order that we are ready to meet Him:

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have grown spiritually lazy and let my heart be distracted by life. For all this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

309 The Advent of Our King

CW 309 st. 5

5 Be - fore the dawn - ing day let sin's dark deeds be gone,
the old self all be put a - way, the new self now put on.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts on a G4 note. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics continue below the notes.

Text: tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
Text and tune: Public domain

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for all of our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and the Son +, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Our sin and guilt is washed away. We are ready to worship him. We are ready to serve him. We are ready to meet him.

Let us, therefore, lift our voices in praise to our glorious King:

309 The Advent of Our King

CW 309 sts. 4, 6

4 As judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come a - gain
6 All glo - ry to the Son, who comes to set us free,
and his true mem - bers all u - nite with him in heav'n to reign.
with Fa - ther, Spir - it, ev - er one thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two lines of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the next two lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Text: tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
Text and tune: Public domain

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray:

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world and ultimately home to heaven; all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord—who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 64:1–9

- ¹Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!
- ²As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you!
- ³For when you did awesome things that we did not expect,
you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.
- ⁴Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.
- ⁵You come to the help of those who gladly do right,
who remember your ways.
- But when we continued to sin against them,
you were angry. How then can we be saved?
- ⁶All of us have become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;
we all shrivel up like a leaf,
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.
- ⁷No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us
and have given us over to our sins.
- ⁸Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay,
you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.
- ⁹Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD;
do not remember our sins forever.
- Oh, look on us, we pray, for we are all your people.

24B Welcome the King

Psalm 24B sts. 5–7

Verses



5 Who is this glo - rious one, for whom we are wait - ing?
6 Come, lift your heads with joy; come, lift up your tow - er;
7 Who is this King of glo - ry of whom we're sing - ing?

Refrain (sung after each verse)



We wait the might - y LORD, our God cel - e - brat - ing.
the King of glo - ry comes in full might and pow - er.
Our God, this LORD of hosts, the vic - t'ry is bring - ing.

Text: Arlo D. Duba

Tune: Israeli

Text: © 1986 Arlo D. Duba. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11133502

Tune: Public domain

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

³Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

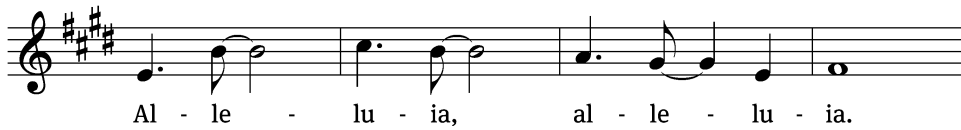
⁴I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— ⁶God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

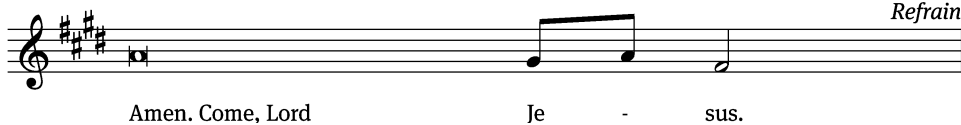
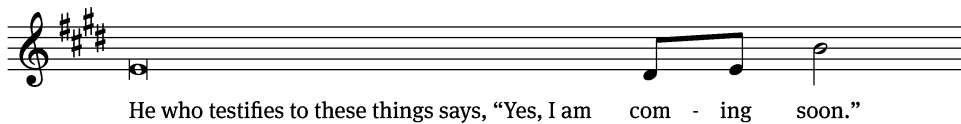
Revelation 22:20



Refrain



Tone



Gospel Reading

Mark 11:1–10

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

⁴They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” ⁶They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their

cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,
 “Hosanna!”
 “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
¹⁰“Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”
 “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

302 Prepare the Royal Highway

CW 302



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a -



near! Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a
 King! Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread
 King! Your King, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its
 bove. His rule is peace and free - dom and



lev - el road ap - pear! Then greet the King of
 gar - ments! Shout and sing! God's prom - ise will not
 trib - ute too should bring. All lands, bow down be -
 jus - tice, truth, and love. So let your praise be



glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 fore him! All na - tions, now a - dore him!



Refrain
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's Word!

Sermon

Mark 1:1-11 "Hosanna!"

314 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

CW 314 sts. 1, 4

1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide; come down, come
4 There shall we all our prais - es bring and sing to
down with might - y stride. Un - lock the gates, the
you, our Sav - ior - King; there shall we laud you
doors break down; un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
and a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

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

Gracious Lord, you sent your Son into our world to destroy the power of Satan and restore the human race as your children and heirs. Work in us during this Advent season so that we may rejoice in the coming of our Savior and long for his coming again.

Make us eager to receive the King who comes to save us.

Use the preaching of your holy law to rid us of all delusions that we can gain your love with our own efforts. Move us to realize how hopeless we are because of sin and to feel sorrow for what we have done wrong.

Lead us to be honest about our sinful status in your sight.

Lift up our hearts to see the King who comes to save. Reveal to us his willingness to take on our human form and stand in our place. Show us the power he extends in his Word and sacraments to make us your children and keep us in faith. Thrill us with his promise to come and take us to our eternal home to live with you forever.

Open our eyes to see and believe the wonders of the Savior's love.

As we live with Christ and trust in him, move us to turn away from sin day after day with the strength your Holy Spirit provides. When we fall, forgive us and renew us to love and serve you and all people.

Empower us and guide us to walk with Christ by faith.

Protect us from the distractions that come at this time of the year. Even in gift-giving and celebrating, keep our hearts focused on Christ and his forgiving love.

Give us joy at his coming at Christmas, his coming in the gospel, and his coming again.

Move us to share with others the most important gift of this season, the truth about Jesus. Even in busy times lead us to pray for those whose joy is diminished because of sickness, pain, or loss. Give us opportunities to provide help to those in need.

May others see the love of Christ in our words and actions.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Loving Lord, work in us during this Advent season so that our joy may be genuine and may rest in the promises of the King who comes to save.

Hosanna in the highest! 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.

Closing Blessing

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.

Amen.

313 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

CW 313



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751, abr., alt.

Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent By Candlelight

Thank-you to all the ladies who worked so hard on Advent by Candlelight this year! Pray that God would bless the Gospel seeds that were scattered through this great outreach event.

Potluck Lunch & Decorating the Worship Area

Please stick around and enjoy some lunch together! And, if you're able to, please help us to put up the Christmas Tree and decorate the worship area for Advent and Christmas.

Bible Classes

Please take advantage of the Bible Classes now offered at Grace: Sunday morning 9 am / Wednesday afternoon 3 pm / the last Friday of the month at 10:30 am (the Parables Bible Class and monthly lunches out will resume in January). Talk to pastor if you'd like to join in one of the current BIC courses as well.

Pastor has just started a new Bible class on **Revelation** held Thursdays at 6:00 pm. You are most welcome to join the group if you are able to – and please invite friends and neighbors! If you can't make the class in person consider watching the course on Facebook (the posts of all our classes are up for 1 month.)

Christmas 2023

This year Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, therefore we'll have worship (and Bible class) in the morning at the normal times, and we won't be having a Christmas Eve service in the evening.

On Christmas Day we'll have our worship at 11:00 am and a potluck luncheon to follow.

A Look at our Church Library

On Giving Advice to God - Part 1 & 2

Wanting to strengthen your devotional life? Are you looking for something meaty that challenges your spiritual growth? "On Giving Advice to God" Parts 1 & 2 by Daniel Deutschlander is available in the church library for you to check out. Developing the theme "The Wisdom of God and the Foolishness of Man", the author reminds the reader how far God's wisdom goes beyond our human thoughts and understanding. Part 1 takes us from Advent through Ascension, following along the church year and the familiar accounts of Scripture we've come to anticipate year after year. The insights you are sure to gain will deepen your understanding and appreciation for God's wisdom and magnanimous love! Part 2 takes us through Pentecost and beyond. Once you get into it, you may even be tempted to buy a copy for your own personal library because you will want to come back to this again and again - one read through is not enough! It makes a great couples' devotion too, and offers plenty of discussion opportunities each time. Your devotional life will never be the same!

Upcoming Schedule

Today	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Advent 1 Worship
Today	11:00 am	Potluck and decorate Worship area
Dec. 6	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class
Dec. 7	10:00 am	Mornings with Mommy
Dec. 7	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Dec. 10	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Dec. 10	11:00 am	Council / Ladies of Grace
Dec. 13	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class
Dec. 14	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Dec. 17	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Advent 3 Worship
Dec. 20	3:00 pm	Genesis Bible Class
Dec. 21	6:00 pm	Revelation Bible Class
Dec. 24	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Worship + Communion
Dec. 25	11:00 am	Christmas Day Worship + lunch
Dec. 31	9 / 10 am	Bible Class / Christmas 1 Worship