



PREPARING FOR
ADVENT

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1505 College Avenue, Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310-4861

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Divine Service 10:15 AM

MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 1
DECEMBER 3, 2025
THE HUMILITY OF THE INCARNATION

AS WE GATHER

No one knows when Advent first began but the season is very old. St. Gregory of Tours wrote the Perpetuus (about AD 480) who decreed a fast three times a week from St. Martin's Day (Nov. 11) to Christmas. In 567 the Second Council of Tours enjoined a fast, nicknamed St. Martin's Lent, from the beginning of December to Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting—not for a child to be born in Bethlehem but for the Lord once born to return to claim that which is His. Advent begins the Church's year of grace and leads God's people to anticipate the future made possible by our Lord's incarnation. It is a season of longing for that day when Christ returns and delivers eternity to His people. As we await that day the Spirit prompts us to cry out in expectation: Come, Lord Jesus."

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN LSB 331 "THE ADVENT OF OUR KING" (STAND ON LAST VERSE)

- 1 The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.
- 2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.
- 3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign.
- 5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,

The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

- 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love.

People and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ^{1Thessalonians 5:8}

Pastor: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

People: Our God shall come; He does not keep silence.

Pastor: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness:

People: let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: We confess together

People: Lord and giver of life, light and salvation---we come before You this evening ready to confess our sins of thought, word and deed which have offended You. We have often not been eager to tell others that Christ is coming again. Help us to cast off the works of darkness, to sincerely repent of all evil in our lives and to be prepared for the coming of the King. Forgive us Lord

Pastor: God who is full of grace and kindness has heard your cry for mercy. For the sake of the great King who died in your stead, all your sins are forgiven and forgotten. Walk now in the brightness of His light. In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit

People Amen. Christ was promised to come, He came, and He will come again—Come Lord Jesus!

+WORD+

OLD TESTAMENT READING 1 Samuel 2:1-10 (ESV)

(Hannah sings with joy to the Lord for the gift of a son.) *Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7*

¹And Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the LORD; my strength is exalted in the LORD. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. ²“There is none holy like the LORD; there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God. ³Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. ⁴The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble bind on strength. ⁵Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. ⁶The LORD kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. ⁷The LORD makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. ⁸He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD’s, and on them he has set the world. ⁹“He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness, for not by might shall a man prevail. ¹⁰The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the power of his anointed.”

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-56 (ESV) (Mary, the mother of our Lord, spoke these words. Now known as “The Magnificent,” in response to the Lord’s promise that she would bear His son.)

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” ⁴⁶And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown

strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; ⁵²he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” ⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

SERMON HYMN LSB 348 “THE KING SHALL COME WHEN MORNING DAWNS”

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.
- 2 Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.
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SERMON

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN LSB 332 "SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME"

- 1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.
- 3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne.
- 5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.
- 7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobrien, 1973
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PRAYER

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

*Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: Lord, have mercy.

*Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us
pray to the Lord.*

People: Lord, have mercy.

*Pastor: For our pastor in Christ and all servants of the Church and for all the people
of God, let us pray to the Lord.*

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our public servants, for the government, and those who protect, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who labor to bring peace, justice, health, and protection, in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for the increase of peace, let us pray for the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the faithful who have gone before us with the sign of faith and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: Alleluia.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: Almighty God, as You visited Your grace to the Virgin Mary that she should become the mother of Your Son, so visit us with Your grace that we may join in her song of praise and thanksgiving all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever

People: Amen.

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the (+) Son and the Holy Spirit
bless and preserve you.*

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN LSB 349 **“HARK THE GLAD SOUND”**

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To_ enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-51
Text: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER