



# *Joy Sunday*

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 8, 2024**

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## **The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice**

The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word *Gaudete*, meaning "Rejoice!" For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. By His own cross, He has accomplished salvation for you; "he has cleared away your enemies," "taken away the judgments against you" and come to reign in your midst. Indeed, He rejoices over you with gladness and song (Zeph. 3:15–17)! Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to "rejoice in the Lord always," knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. The same good news is preached to you, by which all things are made new and even "the dead are raised up" (Luke 7:22). Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and thanksgiving (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

## Prelude:

(Announcements and Ringing of the Bell)

### 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is  
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with  
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near." we hear it say. "Cast a - way the  
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with  
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"  
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;  
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89

Text and tune: Public domain

P: In the Name of the Father, and the Son  $\text{✠}$ , and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**Vocal Choir:**

*"Christmas Sanctus"*

Words by Susan Naus Dengler

Music by Lee Dengler

## Responsive Advent Litany:

**P:** The Advent of Christ focuses on Christ's coming in three ways:

*1. Christ has come has come once in history,*

We give thanks Oh Christ that you came to earth, incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, You taught us the Good news of the Kingdom of God, you showed us the Gospel by hanging on the Cross, you rose again defeating death and our enemy the devil, for a people waiting for their messiah you brought Hope.

### **C: Thanks be to God. We Rejoice!**

(The Hope Candle is Lit)

#### **333 Once He Came in Blessing** *st. 1*

I Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -  
 dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,  
 Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to  
 save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534

Text and tune: Public domain

**P:** The Advent of Christ focuses on Christ's coming in three ways:

*II. Christ comes to us now in Word and Sacrament,*

We give thanks Oh Christ that you continue to visit us in your blessed Word and in the Body and Blood given to us at this altar. Truly you do not leave us defenseless and alone, but you feed us and fill us with your love and forgiveness. This is our Joy in a year and a latter day.

### **C: Thanks be to God. We Rejoice!**

(The Joy Candle is Lit)

#### **333 Once He Came in Blessing**

*st. 2*

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 2 Now He gently leads us; With Himself He feeds us Precious food from heaven, Pledge of peace here given, Man - na that will nourish Souls that they may flourish.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534

Text: © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004814

Tune: Public domain

**P:** The Advent of Christ focuses on Christ's coming in three ways:

*I. Christ will come again on the last day,*

We give thanks Oh Christ for all the promises that you have

made to us that you have kept. You promised us forgiveness and you gave it. You promised food for our souls and you provided holy manna and the wine that saves. You promised that you would come and break the hold that sin, death and the devil had over us and you prevailed for us. Every promise made from your lips are promises kept and it is our joy that you have promised to come again and make all things new.

### C: Thanks be to God. We Rejoice!

#### 333 Once He Came in Blessing

sts. 3-4

3 Soon will come that hour, When with might - y  
4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -

pow - er us. Christ will come in splen - dor  
lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,

And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful  
That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -

shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.  
fess You Till in heav'n we bless - You.

## Introit

*Psalm 146:5–8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

P: Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C: again I will say, Rejoice.**

P: Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**C: whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

P: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

**C: who keeps faith forever;**

P: who executes justice for the oppressed,

**C: who gives food to the hungry.**

P: The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**C: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C: again I will say, Rejoice.**

P: Let us pray...

Lord Jesus Christ, we pray that you would help us this day and every day to rejoice in the Lord always, again help us to rejoice! Help us not be anxious about anything but may your gracious visitation lighten the darkness of our hearts. In the name of Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

**384 Of the Father's Love Begotten**

*sts. 1–4*

**Children Sing Vs 1**

**Congregation sings the rest of the Hymn**

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Fear not, O Zion;  
let not your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.

<sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

<sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal  
with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

<sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in,  
at the time when I gather you together;

for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### 349 Hark the Glad Sound



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, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51 Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820 Text and tune: Public domain

### Epistle

*Philippians 4:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



## Christ is Our Reason for Joy!

**Congregation:** **387 "Joy to the World"**

**Reading:** Isaiah 61: 1-4 & 8-11 (The Promise of Righteousness)

**St Paul's Ringers** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
Arranged by Lloyd Larson

**Reading:** Matthew 1: 18-25  
(The One, Jesus, Who will bring Righteousness)

**Congregation:** **332 "Savior of the Nations Come" vs 1-2**

**Reading:** Luke 2: 1-7  
(The Divine Providence of God; a Census and a Journey)

**Congregation & Choir:** *Child of the Poor* by Scott Soper  
**370 "What Child Is This"**

**St Paul's Ringers** *Away in a Manger/Still, Still,*  
*Still*

Arranged by Lloyd Larson

**Reading:** Luke 2: 8-20  
(Righteousness and Peace in a Manger)

**Vocal Choir:** *The First Noel*  
Arranged by Linda & Steven Pratt

**Congregation:** **374 "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"**

**Reading:** Matthew 2: 1-12 (Wise Men Seek the Prince of Peace)

**Congregation:** **397 "As with Gladness Men of Old" vs 1-3**

**Sermon:** Rev. Jacob Smith

**Offering:** **364 "Away in a Manger"**  
Sunday School Children Sing vs 1-2  
**Congregation sings vs 3**

**Vocal Choir:**

*"Carol of the Bells"*  
Music by M. Leontovich  
Arr by Peter J. Wilhousky

**Prayers**

**Advent Prayer:**

**All: Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we thank you for sending the Prince of Peace into a world filled with unrest and strife. We ask that you quiet our restless hearts and instill in each of us the calm assurance that tells us you are in control, so we need not worry. Give us the tools we need to serve as you would have us serve and make us willing instruments of your peace. Amen.**

**Congregation:**

**376 "Once in Royal David's City"**

**Postlude**

A Special thanks to everyone who made this program possible:

Pianist/Organist: Cyrece Kono

Bell Choir Director: Cyrece Kono

**AND** all the members of the Bell Choir & Vocal Choir.

# Second Sunday in Advent

**December 8, 2024**

**PRAYER LIST:** Please pray for Roger Blum, Barbara Dahme, Fern Preston, Sheyenne Seely, Andrew & Cindy Ruenzel, Dawn Dohn, Baelyn Schwab, Pam Dutenhoffer, Clayton and Karen Johnson, Sally Kushman, Dan Lingor, Viril Layton, Dora Lane, Martha Jerke, Sandy Wolf, Barb Wacholz, Dee Hettick, Jeannie Quam, Joyce Dahme, Eunice Guerin, Nels Olson, Mary Casanova, Phyllis Hite, Norma Miller, Eric Gerth, and Roger Drevlow.

**Please inform the Pastor** or the church office when you or a loved one is hospitalized. If you would like to add your name or remove a name to the above prayer list, please contact the church office.

**Advent Services** – Wednesdays at 12:15pm and 6:15 pm. Soup and sandwiches after the noon service and prior to the 6:15 pm service.

**Date Change – Sunday School Christmas Program** – date changed to Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am.

**Offering envelopes for 2025** are on the table at both narthexes.

**Poinsettia Plants** – Plants may be purchased for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Please bring or have them delivered to church the week of Christmas.

**Little Ones' Book Club** – Our youngest children (Baptism through age 3) have a Bible based book waiting for them on the table in the South Narthex. Please take it home, read and enjoy! It's yours to keep!

**Caroling** - Join the elders on December 15 from 1pm – 3:30 pm as we sing Christmas carols to some of our shut-ins. We plan on meeting at the church and going out from there. Hope to see you there and Merry Christmas!

**Rejoice Ornaments** – On the Christmas tree in the South Narthex are "Rejoice" ornaments. Each family may pick an ornament and take home to place on your tree. We thank the LWML ladies who made these ornaments.

The next meeting of **St Paul's Men's Club** will meet at Buffalo Wild Wings Tuesday December 10th at 6pm. Following dinner at St Paul's a short devotion/Bible study, followed by cards or other activity. All manly men are welcome to attend, hope to see you there! Thanks Shane

**Thanks to all** who brought donations for Journey Home. They were received gratefully at Journey Home. The cart will be in the Narthex again next fourth Sunday. We also plan to have the cart out in the Fellowship Hall during Bible Study Hour on the other Sundays. Bless you for being generous.

**Sunday Attendance: Dec. 1, 2024** – 8:00 am – 87  
10:45 am – 107 Wed.: 12:15 pm - 32 6:15 pm - 68  
Bible Study: Sun: 45 Wed: 11am – 8 5:15pm - 7

**Offering: Dec 1, 2024** - \$10,160.00  
Coffee - \$121.00 Sunday School - \$34.75 Missions - \$120.00  
Shepherd Fund - \$262.67

**Amount to meet budget:** \$12,569.00 per week

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S: (Dec. 8 – Dec. 15)**

<b>Sun</b>	9:00 am	Bible Study
	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Music Sunday
	11:30 am	Potluck lunch
<b>Tue</b>	6:00 pm	Men's Club – Buffalo Wild Wings
	7:00 pm	Bible Study at church
<b>Wed</b>	11:00 am	Bible Study
	<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Advent Worship</b>
	1:00 pm	Soup & Sandwiches
	5:15 pm	Women's Bible Study
	5:30 pm	Soup & Sandwiches
	<b>6:15 pm</b>	<b>Advent Worship</b>
7:00 pm	Confirmation	
<b>Thur</b>	9:00 am	LWML Meeting
	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
	7:30 pm	Bell Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	9:30 am	Donuts and Coffee
	9:30 am	Bible Study
	9:30 am	Sunday School
	<b>10:45 am</b>	<b>Worship Service/Children's Program</b>
1:00 pm	Caroling	