### **PRELUDE**

The First candle in our Advent Wreath symbolizes "Hope" It reminds us Jesus is coming.

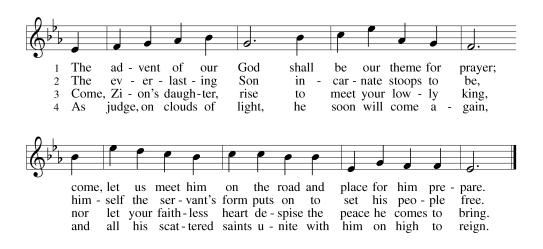
Romans 15:12-13

Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

O God by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth your blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from you abundant graces. In Christ's name. Amen

## **ENTRANCE HYMN** LBW#22 "The Advent of Our God"



- 5 Before the dawning day let sin be put to flight; no longer let the law hold sway, but walk in freedom's light.
- 6 All glory to the Son, who comes to set us free, with Father, Spirit, ever one through all eternity.

## **GREETING (LBW p. 99)**

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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

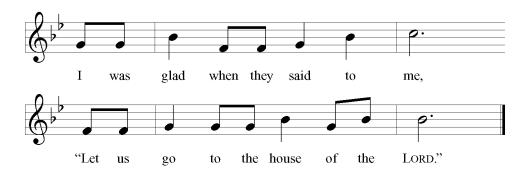
The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! The Word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.

### **PSALM: Psalm 122**



I was glad when they | said to me, "Let us go to the house | of the LORD."

## Now our | feet are standing within your gates, | O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built | as a city that is at unity | with itself;

## to which the tribes go up, the tribes | of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name | of the LORD. R

For there are the | thrones of judgment, the thrones of the | house of David.

## Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem:

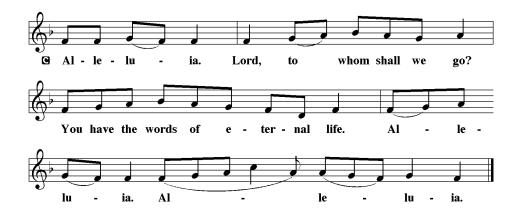
"May they pros- | per who love you.

Peace be with- | in your walls and quietness with- | in your towers.

# For my brethren and com- | panions' sake, I pray for | your prosperity.

Because of the house of the | LORD our God, I will seek to | do you good." R

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter.



## Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

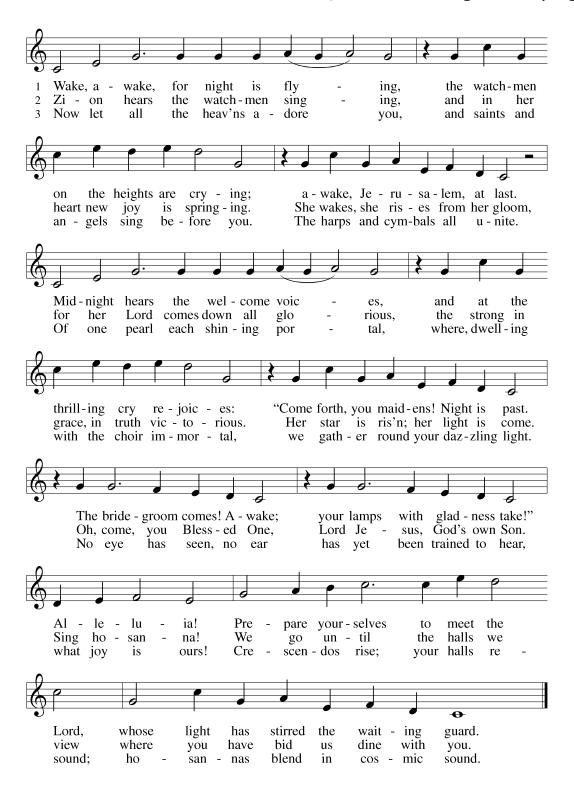
[Jesus said to the disciples,] "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.



## **SERMON**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY** LBW#31 "Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying"



**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 for 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 PRAYERS

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

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work. God, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals. God, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth (other places of conflict may be named). God, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care (especially). God, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict (*especially*). Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission. God, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing. God, in your mercy,

## hear our prayer.

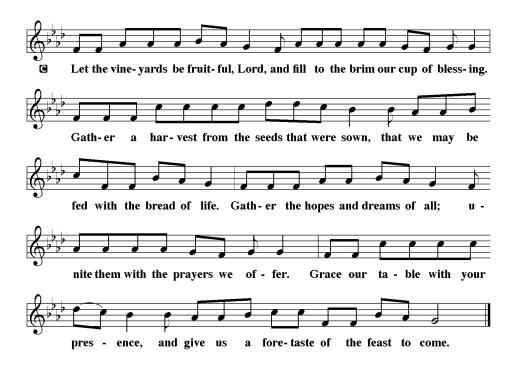
God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

#### Amen.

## OFFERING CHORAL ANTHEM

"Come O Jesus, Holy One"

-Robert G. Newton



A Let us pray.

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord be with you.

## And also with you.

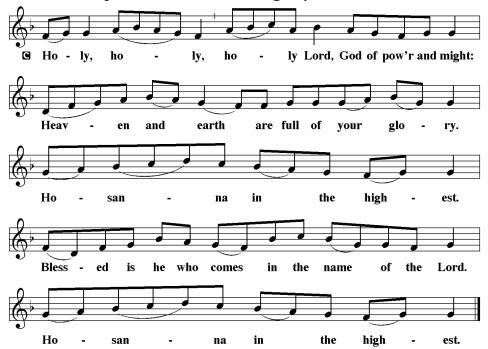
Lift up your hearts.

## We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

## It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

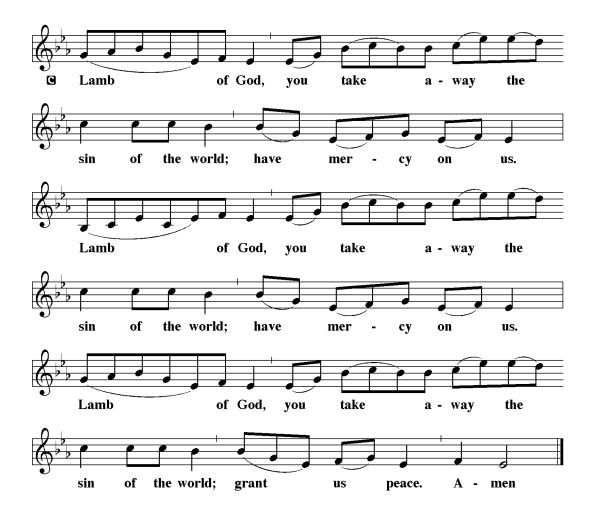
## Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

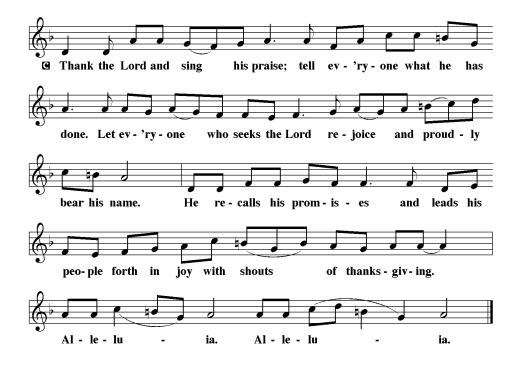
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.



The Body of Christ, given for you. The Blood of Christ, shed for you.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

#### Amen



We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen

#### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\pm$  give you peace.

#### Amen.

#### **SENDING HYMN**

## LBW#33 "The King Shall Come"



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, to bear and fight and die.
- 3 Oh, bright er than the ris ing morn when Christ, vic to rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright er than that glo rious morn shall dawn up on our rac
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes. but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky. and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes. the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

#### **DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

LBW Setting 3

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