



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Rooted and Growing: In Christ. In Community.

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Come, Lord Jesus!

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## **Welcome to Worship!**

“Advent” derives its origin from a Latin word that means “coming.” During the season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for Jesus’ coming as a baby in Bethlehem. We celebrate his coming to us in Word and Sacrament. And we eagerly look forward to his coming again on the Last Day. Because of what Jesus did when he came to earth 2000 years ago, we need not fear when he comes again—instead, we yearn for it. Come, Lord Jesus!

Why would we begin the season of Advent with the Gospel from Palm Sunday? Because as we begin another church year, these events serve as a perfect summary of God's entire plan of salvation. Who is this riding into Jerusalem? The King of all creation, a King who hides his glory and power as he rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, a King who is unlike any ruler who ever lived. This King is infinitely greater than all other kings yet also infinitely more humble. He is willing to trade his golden crown for a crown made of thorns. He comes not to be served but to serve us. Who is this? All of eternity hinges on that question. And as we march through this new Church year, the answer becomes crystal clear: this King is the Savior of the nations.

## **Worship Notes**

It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God’s Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

If you need assistance with anything during worship—including large-print service folders and assisted listening devices—please ask one of our ushers. Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area. Small children can be taken into the entry area, mother’s room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed during the worship service. Changing tables are available in the mother’s room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.

During the offering, all worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder or located online at [www.sjtosa.org/Connect](http://www.sjtosa.org/Connect)). Completed cards may be placed in the baskets by the exit.

## **Bible Study**

Our Sunday morning Bible study and Sunday school program are on hiatus this weekend. Please join us next weekend (Sunday, December 4) for a special one-week Q&A Bible study. Rev. Robert Fleischmann will continue his study on “The Christian and Bioethics” on Sunday, December 11.

# The First Sunday in Advent

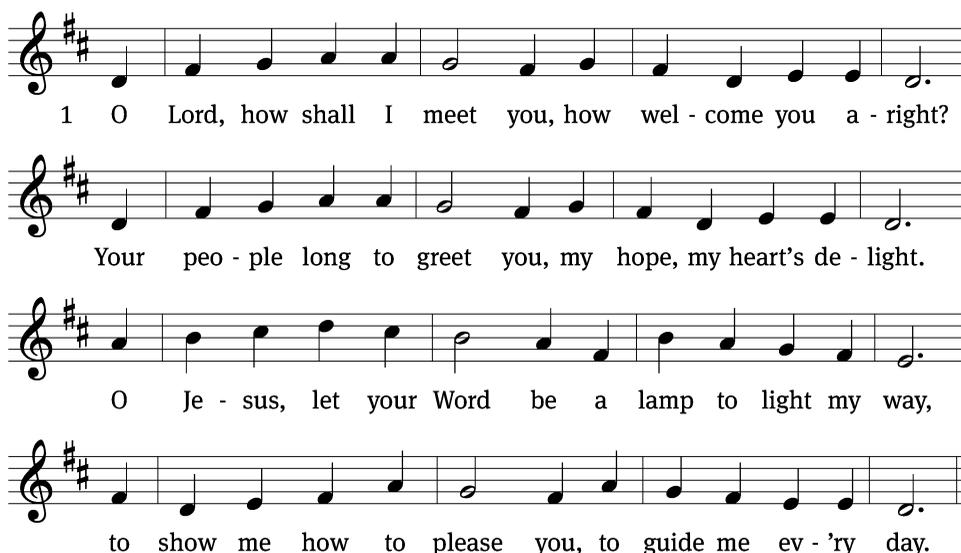
## November 26 & 27, 2022

Come, Lord Jesus! As King

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### Prelude

*Please stand*



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you are?  
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight.  
O Jesus, let your Word be a lamp to light my way,  
to show me how to please you, to guide me every day.

In the name of the Father and of the Son  $\dagger$  and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**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 done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For 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.**

***(sung)* I lay in fetters, groaning, you come to set me free;  
I stood, my shame bemoaning, you come to honor me;  
a glory you do give me, a treasure safe on high,  
that will not fail or leave me as earthly riches fly.**

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for 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 of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

***(sung)* Sin's debt, that fearful burden, let not your souls distress;  
your guilt the Lord will pardon and cover by his grace.  
He comes, for you procuring the peace of sin forgiv'n,  
his children thus securing eternal life in heav'n.**

### **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

We light one Advent candle and remember Jesus, the One who is coming again. He will come at the end of time to gather together all his people, both the living and the dead.

**We remember Jesus, who will come at a day and hour unknown to his creation.**

We hear his call to watch.

**We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

Come, Lord Jesus, and dwell among us.

**Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

*The first Advent candle is lit during the sung response.*

***(sung)* He comes to judge the nations, a terror to his foes,  
a light of consolation, and blessed hope to those  
who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,  
send forth your beams most cheering, and guide us safely home.**

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(sung)* Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,  
who mourn o'er joys departed and tremble at your doom.  
despair not; he is near you, he's standing at the door  
who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Be seated*

## The Word

### First Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

*When our King comes again on the last day, he will transform this world.*

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

In the last days

the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established

as the highest of the mountains;

it will be exalted above the hills,

and all nations will stream to it.

Many peoples will come and say,

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the temple of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us his ways,

so that we may walk in his paths.”

The law will go out from Zion,

the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He will judge between the nations

and will settle disputes for many peoples.

They will beat their swords into plowshares

and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will not take up sword against nation,

nor will they train for war anymore.

Come, descendants of Jacob,

let us walk in the light of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 24

### Refrain



### Tone



The earth is the LORD's, and every- / thing in it,  
the world, and all who / live in it;  
for he founded it / on the seas  
and established it on the / waters.  
Who may ascend the mountain / of the LORD?  
Who may stand in his / holy place?  
The one who has clean hands and a / pure heart,  
they will receive blessing from God their / Savior. *Refrain*

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you / ancient doors,  
that the King of glory / may come in.  
Who is this King of / glory?  
The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in / battle.  
Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you / ancient doors,  
that the King of glory / may come in.  
Who is he, this King of / glory?  
The LORD Almighty—he is the King of / glory.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

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## Second Reading

Philippians 4:4–7

*The King who came transforms our present lives from worry to joy and hope.*

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:10

Alleluia, alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. Alleluia.

## Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

*The King of all creation comes in total humility and was willing to do everything needed to save us.*

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

“Say to Daughter Zion,

‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## **Anthem (Sunday)**

*Adult Choir*

Rejoice, rejoice, the Savior comes,  
the Savior promised long;  
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne  
and ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,  
in evil bondage held.  
The gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of God's grace  
to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
your welcome shall proclaim,  
and heav'n's eternal arches ring  
with your beloved name.

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## **Hymn of the Day**

Savior of the Nations, Come  
*Christian Worship 301*

## **Sermon**

Matthew 21:1–11

*Your King Comes to You*

*Please stand*

## **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.**

## **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 to 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.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow*

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.

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **Offering**

*Members of St. John's give offerings to support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors are welcome but not obligated to give an offering. All worshipers are asked to fill out a Connection Card (included with the service folder). Physical offerings and Connection Cards can be left in the basket on your way out of church. To submit your offering electronically or fill out a Connection Card online, scan the QR code or visit [www.sjtosa.org/offering](http://www.sjtosa.org/offering).*



## **Hymn**

Prepare the Royal Highway  
Christian Worship 302

*Please stand*

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. 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 on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

### **Closing Hymn**

The Advent of Our King  
*Christian Worship 309*

### **Announcements**

### **Postlude**

## Acknowledgments

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<b>Readings for the Week of Advent 1</b>		
M	2 Corinthians 1:15-22	Habakkuk 2:1-4
T	Micah 2:1,2,9,12,13	Colossians 1:9-14
W	2 Samuel 7:4-9,11-14a,16	Genesis 49:8-10
R	Isaiah 64:1-3	Numbers 24:15-18
F	Hebrews 10:19-25	John 18:33-37
S	Revelation 22:12-14,16,17,20,21	Zephaniah 3:14-17

## Serving at Worship

**Preacher**

Pastor Eric Schroeder

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Joel Leyrer

**Musicians**

Megan Bauer, piano (Saturday)  
Lynn Kozlowski, organ (Sunday)

**Adult Choir Director**

Adam Sipe

## Worship Notes

- The flowers are placed by Jason and Melissa Gregory in celebration of Jenna Gregory's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## In Our Prayers

- Sawyer Sweet, scheduled to undergo intracranial surgery at Children's Hospital on Tuesday, November 29.
- Sally Parker, released from the hospital this past week and now recovering at home from a mild heart attack she suffered on November 13.

## Parents' Preview for December 4

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

### On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry *Christian Worship 316*



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin and fur - nished  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and lift us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; come, then, and lis - ten,  
for a Guest with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
up to fall no more; O make your face on  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings good news a - bout the King of kings.  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
us to shine, and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Holiday Worship Opportunities

<b>Wednesdays, November 30 &amp; December 7 &amp; 14</b>	Midweek Advent Worship 3:30 & 6:45 p.m. <i>Fellowship meal from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.</i>
<b>Saturday, December 17</b>	Early Learning Center Christmas Service 9:00 a.m.
<b>Saturday, December 24</b>	Children's Christmas Eve Service 4:00 p.m. at Wisconsin Lutheran High School
<b>Saturday, December 24</b>	Service of Lessons & Carols 7:00 p.m.
<b>Sunday, December 25</b>	Christmas Day Festival Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
<b>Saturday, December 31</b>	New Year's Eve Worship 5:30 p.m.
<b>Sunday, January 1, 2023</b>	New Year's Day Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
<b>Sunday, January 8, 2023</b>	Epiphany Worship 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. <i>Bible Study &amp; Sunday School resume</i>

# The Mission of our Church

As God's people gathered together at St. John's, we live to declare the praises of our Savior God who called us out of the darkness of sin into the light of his grace.

As 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples of Jesus, we reflect the light of God's love by:



Making worship of our Savior the top priority in our lives



Growing in our faith through daily contact with God's Word



Fostering Christian friendships for mutual encouragement and support



Using our unique gifts to glorify God and serve God's people



Sharing the good news of God's forgiving love with others

## Worship Services

Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

## Worship in Chinese

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m.

## Pastors

*Pastor Joel Leyrer*  
[joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org](mailto:joel.leyrer@sjtosa.org)

*Pastor Eric Schroeder*  
[eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org](mailto:eric.schroeder@sjtosa.org)

## Chinese Outreach

### Pastor

*Pastor Joshua Yu*  
[joshua.yu@sjtosa.org](mailto:joshua.yu@sjtosa.org)

## School Principal

*Mr. Dan Markgraf*  
[dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org](mailto:dan.markgraf@sjtosa.org)

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