

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

THEME: God's love moves us to take risks for His sake.

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### OPENING PRAYER

P: Heavenly Father, as we begin this morning we see that You are the One who makes all things new. We want to be made new, that is why we are here this morning. Some of the choices we have made and the way in which life has gone for us have made us feel tired and unproductive. In your forgiveness today, make us alive to serve.....to see the world a new way.....to expect great things from You. In Jesus' name we pray.

**C: Amen.**

#### OPENING SONG "Green Book" 33 (vs. 1-4)      The King Shall Come

The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty glides eastern hills  
And life to joy awakes.

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.

Oh, brighter than the rising morn  
When Christ, victorious, rose  
And left the lonesome place of death,  
Despite the rage of foes.

Oh brighter than that glorious morn  
Shall dawn upon our race  
The day when Christ in splendor comes,  
And we shall see his face.

The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light and beauty brings.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray;  
Come quickly, King of Kings.

#### OPENING BLESSING

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

**C: Amen!**

### WE CONFESS OUR SINS...

P: Before we continue in our worship and praise, it is fitting for us to admit to God and each other our sinfulness, especially our failure to live our lives with the newness God has given us. Too concerned about our past and the challenges of the future, we have indeed failed to recognize the newness God gives to us each day. During this time of silence we reflect upon the times we have failed to reflect God's light to the world.

*(Silence for personal reflection)*

**C: Gracious God, we come to you in worship because we want to give thanks and praise to you, and to hear your good word of hope and promise. But we gather with the very clear awareness of being sinners in serious need of your grace. We have sinned in our thoughts, our words, our actions. We admit that we have not always kept our priorities in order. We have valued our selfish desires over spiritual values. Forgive us, Lord, and help us by your Spirit to put our spiritual life first, following you as our Savior and Lord.**

### ...HEARING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son for us, and for his sake forgives all our sins. As a servant of God's Word and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us all pray together these words:

**C: 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; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[The First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11](#)

God brings comfort at just the right time.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,

and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand

double for all her sins.

A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
    and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
    and the rough places a plain.  
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
    and all flesh shall see it together,  
    for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”  
A voice says, “Cry!”  
    And I said, “What shall I cry?”  
All flesh is grass,  
    and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.  
The grass withers, the flower fades  
    when the breath of the LORD blows on it;  
    surely the people are grass.  
The grass withers, the flower fades,  
    but the word of our God will stand forever.  
Go on up to a high mountain,  
    O Zion, herald of good news;  
lift up your voice with strength,  
    O Jerusalem, herald of good news;  
    lift it up, fear not;  
say to the cities of Judah,  
    “Behold your God!”  
Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
    and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
    and his recompense before him.  
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
    he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
    and gently lead those that are with young.

#### [The Second Lesson: 2 Peter 3:8-14](#)

Peter challenges us to be found “without blemish or spot” when the Lord comes.

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

The Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:1-8

John prepares the way for Jesus in the wilderness

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,

the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG “Red Book” 32

Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing,  
Help us to praise! Father all glorious, over all victorious,  
Come and reign over us, ancient of days!

Jesus, our Lord, descend; from all foes defend,  
Nor let us fall; let thine almighty aid our sure defense  
Be made: our souls on thee be stayed; Lord, hear our call!

Come, thou incarnate word, gird on thy mighty sword,  
Our prayer attend. Come and thy people bless, and give thy  
Word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, holy comforter, thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour; thou who almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart, and never from us depart, Spirit of power!

To the great One in Three, eternal praises be,, hence evermore;  
His sovereign majesty may we glory see,  
And to eternity love and adore.

### AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

**C: We believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
And born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The holy catholic church  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen**

### OFFERINGS

We give our offerings as signs of our lives offered to God in humble thanks and service.

### OFFERING SONG "Green Book" 410 We Give Thee but Thine Own

**We give Thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be,  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust O Lord from thee.  
May we thy bounties thus As stewards true receive,  
And gladly, as thou blesses us, To thee our firstfruits give.**

### THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

(after each prayer)

P: Lord in your mercy

**C: Hear our prayer.**

### **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Welcome to the celebration! God who supplies our every need has given us this meal to share.

**C: Lord, we thank You for the bread of eternal life.**

P: We come to the table, acknowledging our shortcomings and our need to experience Your presence in bread and wine.

**C: Lord, we thank You for the bread of eternal life.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

### DISTRIBUTION

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Red Book” 108

I’ve Got Peace

I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a  
River, I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.  
I’ve got peace like a river, I’ve got peace like a  
River, I’ve got peace like a river in my soul.

I’ve got love like an ocean, I’ve got love like an  
Ocean, I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul.  
I’ve got love like an ocean, I’ve got love like an  
Ocean, I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul.

I’ve got joy like a fountain, I’ve got joy like a  
Fountain, I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul.  
I’ve got joy like a fountain, I’ve got joy like a  
Fountain, I’ve got joy like a fountain in my soul.

“Red Book” 78

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim "My God how great thou art!"  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!

#### CLOSING BLESSING

#### CLOSING HYMN "Green Book" 36 (vs. 1-4)      On Jordan's Banks

On Jordan's banks the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and harken, for he brings Glad  
tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without your grace we waste away  
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
And make us rise to fall no more;  
Oh, let your face upon us shine  
And fill the world with love divine.

#### DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

#### POST-SERVICE MUSIC