

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 8 & 11, 2022

The Season Advent is a season of preparation and anticipation. The Church looks for the coming of her Savior in this threefold advent: his coming in the flesh; his return in judgment; his daily coming in Word and Sacrament. A single word that defines Advent worship: "Come!" Throughout the prayers, verses, and lessons that single word is our invitation, our anticipation, our sure and certain hope. Come, Lord Jesus!

The Sunday Rejoice! In the Messiah's kingdom things are not always what they seem. Appearances can be deceiving and lead to doubt. Faith in Christ leads us to rejoice in the Lord's caring plan despite any appearances to the contrary.

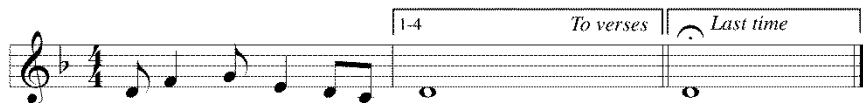
Hymn *My Soul in Stillness Waits* CWS 703



Refrain



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits,



tru-ly my hope is in you. you.

Verses



- 1 O Lord of Light, our on-ly hope of
- 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up-on our
- 3 O Root of Life, im-plant your seed with-
- 4 O Key of Know-ledge, guide us in our



glo-ry, Your ra-diance shines in all who look to
 spir-its. Our thirs-ty hearts are yearn-ing for your
 in us, And in your ad-vent draw us all to
 pil-grim-age, We ev-er seek, yet un-ful-filled re-

To Refrain



you. Come, light the hearts of all in dark and sha-dow.
 Word. Come, make us whole, be com-fort to our hearts.
 you, Our hope re-born in dy-ing and in ris-ing.
 main. O-pen to us the path-way of your peace.

Text: *O Antiphons*, adapted. © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS (11 10 11 and Refrain) Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Stand

Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



Our mission is to
Glorify God
 as we
Gather
 around the **Gospel**
 to help people
Grow
 in the **Gospel**
 and
Go
 with the **Gospel**

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

GATHERING RITE

M: We wait in hope for the LORD ; he is our help and our shield.

C: In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

M: May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you (Ps 33:20-23)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;

C: according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions

M: Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. (Ps 51:1-2; 32:1)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?

C: But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

M: I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. (Ps 130:3-5)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

C: Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

M: He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins. (Ps 130:6-8)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

M: My heart is not proud, LORD, my eyes are not haughty; I do not concern myself with great matters or things too wonderful for me

C: But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content.

M: Israel, put your hope in the LORD both now and forevermore. (Ps 131)

C: (sung) For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits, truly my hope is in you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Choir

Emmanuel (10:30)

First Lesson:

Job 1:6-22

In the second lesson, James points to Job as an example of perseverance in the face of suffering and God's resulting blessing. To Satan it appeared that Job served God because he was blessed. That was not so. After great suffering and tremendous loss, it appeared to everyone else that Job had absolutely no reason to praise God. That was not so either. Job knew that for the children of God, things are not always what they seem. He had the patience to wait for the rain—to wait for God to make fruitful again the fallow parts of his life.

⁶ One day the angels came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them. ⁷ The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered the LORD, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it."

⁸ Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

⁹ "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. ¹⁰ "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹ But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

¹² The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

Then Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

¹³ One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁴ a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, ¹⁵ and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁷ While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁸ While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁹ when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

²⁰ At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹ and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
and naked I will depart.

The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;
may the name of the LORD be praised."

²² In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146 CW

Refrain



I will praise your name for - ev-er, my King and my God.

Psalm tone



Praise the LORD, Q my soul.*

I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

Do not put your trust in princes,*
in mortal men, who cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the LORD his God,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

Refrain

The LORD gives food to the hungry,*
the LORD sets prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight to the blind,*
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down.

The LORD watches over the outcast*
and sustains the fatherless and the widow.

The LORD remains faithful forever.*
He upholds the cause of the oppressed.

**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.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Second Lesson

James 5:7-11

Knowing what we do about Christ's coming kingdom, we want it now. God's encouragement, however, is for us to be patient. A farmer's fields may look fallow or dead, but things are not always what they seem. The seed waits inside the earth for the rains and then bursts forth to life. When Christians face persecution or suffering, life can seem like a fallow field. While we wait for the rain, we struggle with questions and doubts. James reminds us that the fallow parts of our lives are simply waiting for God's timing to bring forth fruit in our lives. The Christian patiently waits for the Lord's coming, when what we see will finally match what we know.

⁷ Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹ Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

¹⁰ Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.
Alleluia. (Matthew 11:10)

Stand

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 11.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

Gospel:

Matthew 11:2-11

Things were not what they seemed. John languished in prison for preaching righteousness. When he saw the works of Jesus questions rose in his mind and doubt filled the hearts of his followers. John knew that Jesus was the Christ, but where were the acts of judgment promised? Why did John look like a failure and the wicked look like they were winning? John sends his disciples to the right place, to Jesus. When we take our doubts and questions to Jesus, he drives the darkness from our hearts and fills us with light. Jesus pointed to his works as signs from God fulfilling the words of the prophet and marking him as the Coming One. Jesus was far more than he appeared to be: he was the Messiah who makes the blind see, the dead live and the poor evangelized. Jesus then points to John and shows greatness hiding behind the cross and persecution. Though John did not seem it, he was the second Elijah and a prophet without peer.

² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

⁴ Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy^[a] are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

⁷ As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."^[Malachi 3:1]

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. (NIV)

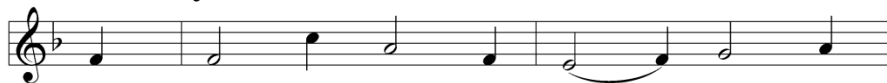
M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

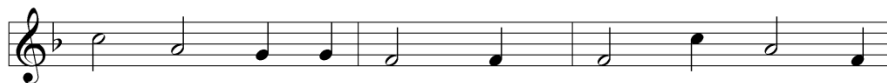
Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Arise, O Christian People CW 14



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him; Pre -
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn



pare your - selves to - day. Pre - pare to greet the
pare for him the best. Cast out what would of -
rais - es up on high; Be - neath his feet in
not from me a - side, And help me to re -



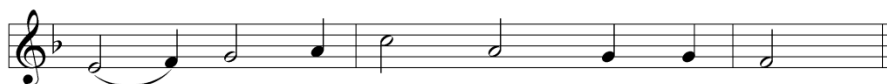
Sav - ior, Who takes your sins a - way. To
fend him, This great, this heav'n - ly guest. Make
ter - ror The haugh - ty soul shall lie. The
ceive you This bless - ed Ad - vent - tide. From



us by grace a - lone The truth and
straight, make plain the way: The low - ly
heart sin - cere and right, That heeds God's
stall and man - ger low Come now to



light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
dwell with - in me; I'll sing your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
glad - ly And forth your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62, alt.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, st. 1-3, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 4, alt.

Tune: AUS MEINES HERZENS GRUNDE (76 76 67 76) *New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein*, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

Stand

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be Seated

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son

coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

Preface

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who comes with his Father to make his home in human hearts, working repentance and faith by his Spirit until he comes again. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy (sung)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry. | 2. Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord! |
|---|--|

Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

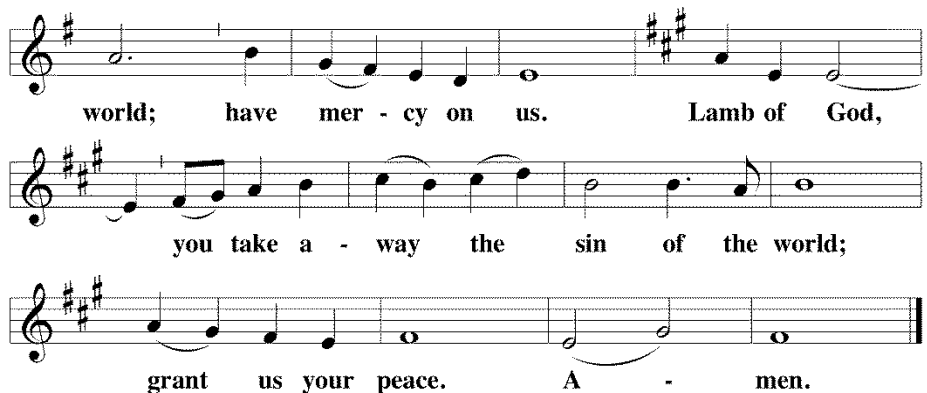
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Lamb of God *Agnes Dei*

John 1:29

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God Agnes Dei'. The first staff is in 4/4 time, G major, and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff continues the melody and includes the lyrics 'sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' The third staff continues the melody and includes the lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the'. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated

Communion Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor or an elder before communing.

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

Oh, for a Faith that Will Not Shrink CW 405



1 Oh, for a faith that will not shrink Though
 2 That will not mur - mur nor com - plain Be -
 3 A faith that shines more bright and clear When
 4 That bears un - moved the world's dread frown Nor
 5 A faith that keeps the nar - row way Till



pressed by man - y a foe, That will not trem - ble
 neath the chas - t'ning rod, But in the hour of
 tem - pests rage with - out, That, when in dan - ger,
 heeds its scorn - ful smile, That sin's wild o - cean
 life's last spark is fled And with a pure and



on the brink Of pov - er - ty or woe,
 grief or pain Can lean up - on its God,
 knows no fear, In dark - ness feels no doubt,
 can - not drown Nor Sa - tan's arts be - guile,
 heav'n - ly ray Lights up the dy - ing bed.

6 Lord, give us such a faith as this,
And then, whate'er may come,
We'll taste e'en now the hallowed bliss
Of an eternal home.

Text: William H. Bathurst, 1796–1877.

Tune: ST. PETER (CM) Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877.

Stand

Song of Simeon *Nunc Dimittis* (sung)

Luke 2:29-32

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel! | 2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity. |
|---|---|

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Hymn

Be Still, My Soul CW 415:1

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of six staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are: "I Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re - main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end."

I Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide;
In ev - 'ry change he faith - ful will re - main.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly friend
Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.

Text: Catharina A. von Schlegel, 1697–1752, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.
Tune: FINLANDIA (10 10 10 10 10) Jean J. C. Sibelius, 1865–1957, adapt. © Breitkopf & Härtel.
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