

Advent



**West Portal Lutheran Church & School
Advent Midweek 1
December 11, 2024**

ADVENT MIDWEEK 2—DECEMBER 11, 2024

MIGHTY GOD

THEME OF THE DAY

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God's Son, who was given the name *Jesus*—a Hebrew name that means “God saves.” However, in addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles that describe something about His person or work. In this year’s Advent series, we are going to examine four titles given to Jesus as found in Isaiah 9:6. Those titles are “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Everlasting Father,” and “Prince of Peace.” We will learn how each of these titles describes something about *who* Jesus is and *what* He did for our salvation.

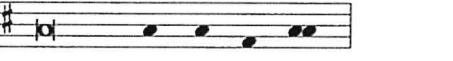
Today we consider the truth that Jesus was and is Immanuel, God among us, the mighty One in whom we may trust for all things here in time until we meet Him in eternity. Jesus is more than a mere human who was a great teacher or a popular hero. He was and is God in human flesh, and only God Himself can save us from sin, death, and the devil.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING SENTENCES


 The image shows a musical score for a solo voice and piano. The vocal line begins with a half note followed by a dotted half note, then a quarter note, another quarter note, and a final eighth note. The piano accompaniment consists of a sustained eighth-note chord. The lyrics 'O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise.' are written below the music, with the first word 'O' in a large, bold, italicized font.

L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

+ PSALMODY +

Psalm 119:129–136

- P** Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.
- C** The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.
- P** I open my mouth and pant, because I long for your commandments.
- C** Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your way with those who love your name.
- P** Keep steady my steps according to your promise, and let no iniquity get dominion over me.
- C** Redeem me from man's oppression, that I may keep your precepts.

P Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.
C My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.

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.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

P Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

HYMN *Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love* **LSB 900**

- 1 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev'ry knee
Bow in deep humility.
- 2 Jesus! Name decreed of old,
To the maiden mother told,
Kneeling in her lowly cell,
By the angel Gabriel.
- 3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth
To the fallen of the earth
For the promise that it gave,
“Jesus shall His people save.”
- 4 Jesus! Name of mercy mild,
Given to the holy Child
When the cup of human woe
First He tasted here below.
- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.
- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

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Sit

+ READING +

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

THIRD READING

John 5:16-18; 8:48-59

And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."

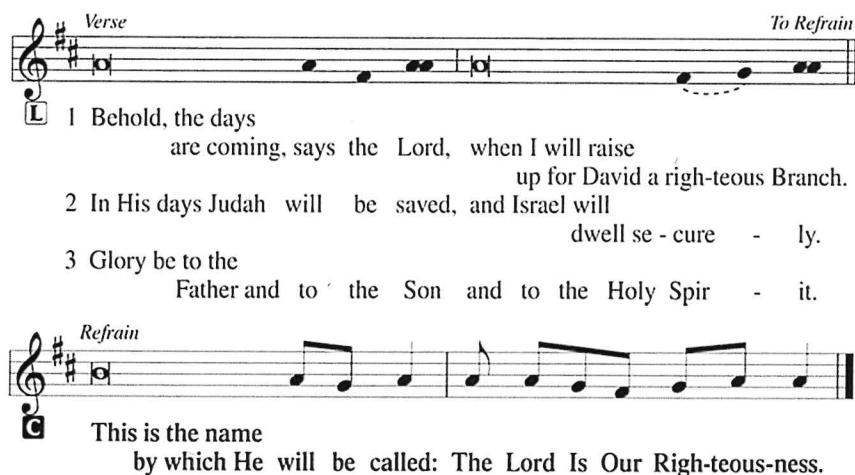
This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling

God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.
C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT



Verse

To Refrain

L 1 Behold, the days
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise
up for David a righteous Branch.
2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will
dwell se - cure - ly.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.

Refrain

C This is the name
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

SERMON**“Mighty God”****TITHES AND OFFERING**

Offering plates to receive your offering are located at the Sanctuary Entrance.

+ CANTICLE +*Stand***HYMN***My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord***LSB 934**

- 1 My soul now magnifies the Lord;
My spirit leaps for joy in Him.
He keeps me in His kind regard,
And I am blest for time to come.
- 2 For He alone who shows such might
Has done amazing things to me.
His mercy flows; His name like light
Remains in time perpetually.
- 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great.
He scatters those of proud intent
And casts them down from high estate,
Then gives the low His nourishment.
- 4 He feeds the hungry as His own;
The wealthy leave with empty hands.
He gives His help to Israel;
His gracious promise always stands.

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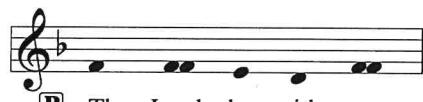
+ PRAYER +**KYRIE**

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

COLLECTS



P The Lord be with you.



C And with your spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION



P The grace of our Lord [†] Je-sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

LSB 348

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.
- 2 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.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

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Sit

POSTLUDE

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book
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+ SERVING YOU TODAY +

Preacher
Liturgist
Pianist
Altar Guild

The Rev. Curtis Binz, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Jacob Swenson, Associate Pastor
Amy Kao
Gerda Beisel, Jing Li,
Rhonda Short, Viviana Soper



Altar Flower Donations

The Altar Guild is again planning to purchase poinsettias to help decorate the Church during this Christmas Season. If you would like to help by donating to the flower fund, please complete this form and return it to the Church Office by Sunday, December 15. The suggested minimum donation is \$15.00. Please make the check payable to Altar Guild—West Portal Lutheran Church.

Name of person(s) donating flowers

Name of person(s) honored or remembered



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS are available on the table in the Narthex. Be sure to pick up one for use during Advent.

Midweek Advent Services Continue in December



In Advent we prepare for the “advent,” or coming of the Lord our Savior. He first came in the flesh at Christmas, the fulfillment of all the prophecies of the Old Testament. More than that, however, He comes to us today in His Word and Sacraments. Then, as at His first coming, we gather now in patient anticipation of His final coming in the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

This Advent we are reminded that Christ is born in us spiritually today and every day. He enters into us daily to strengthen and support us, save us and renew us. We are changed by his presence within us as we become more and more like him in the living of our lives.

We continue to gather for Midweek Advent Services on Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00PM. Join us at 6:00PM for a congregational dinner and fellowship prior to each Service.

Advent Midweek 3 - December 18, 2024
Everlasting Father

Congregational Advent Dinner at 6PM to be prepared by Dan Holt and Elders/Fellowship Committees. All are welcome to a light dinner and dessert. You only need to bring your appetite!



Christmas Services

Join with us and invite family and friends to worship the Lord at any of our Christmas Services.

5:00 PM DECEMBER 24TH—CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Scripture lessons, lighting of candles; Christmas music

7:00 PM DECEMBER 24TH—CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
Scripture lessons, lighting of candles; Christmas music

10:00 AM DECEMBER 25TH—CHRISTMAS DAY - FESTIVAL EUCHARIST
Carols and hymns; Lord's Supper

NO SATURDAY DECEMBER 28TH SERVICE

10:00 AM December 29th SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Lord's Supper

NO NEW YEAR'S EVE OR DAY JANUARY 1ST SERVICES

West Portal Lutheran
Church & School

Worship Services

Saturday, 5:00PM
Sunday, 10:00AM

Bible Classes

Wednesday, 11:00AM
Sunday, 9:00AM

Sunday School

Sunday, 9:00AM

CHURCH

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San Francisco CA 94132
415-661-0242
www.
westportallutheran.org

SCHOOL

Sloat Campus
200 Sloat Boulevard
San Francisco CA 94132
415-665-6330

Sunset Campus
3101 Moraga Street
San Francisco CA 94122
415-731-3000
www.wplsf.com

Rev. Curtis Binz,
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jacob Swenson,
Associate Pastor

Ms. Sherise Lee,
Principal

Mrs. Sherilyn Jew,
*Assistant to the Principal-
Teaching, Learning, Curriculum*

Ms. Amy Kao
Music Director

*Advent Midweek 2
12/11/24
7:00PM*