

Come Lord Jesus



**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 West Gano Chance Road
Centralia, Missouri 65240
Second Sunday in Advent
December 8, 2024
Children's Christmas Program**

**Presented by: Betsy Cochran, Hannah Lanning, Wiley Rojas, Colton Rainey, Jacob Cochran,
Anna Cochran, Katy Lanning, Leah Cochran, Carson Robertson, Abby Rainey,
Jacki Stelzer, Ben Robertson, Kim Rainey**

**Accompanist: Donna Hoek
Sunday School Superintendent: Katie Hoek**

WELCOME

Pastor James Lanning

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN – “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” (Congregation)

LSB 379

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son:

All: And shall call his name Immanuel

Pastor: And there shall come forth a Rod out of the stem of Jesse:

All: And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

Pastor: And thou, child, shall go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways:

All: To give Knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins.

Pastor: Through the tender mercy of our God, whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us:

All: To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Pastor: I shall see him, but not now; I shall behold him, but not nigh:

All: There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel.

Prayer

O God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whose grace we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we come into your presence with holy joy, for you have gloriously fulfilled your promises, given to our first parents after the Fall, and to all those who waited in hope for the salvation of Israel. Accept the humble tribute of praise which we and our children bring, and grant that through the birth of your Son we may be born again in the Spirit unto the blessed hope of everlasting life. Amen

Song – “O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel” (Congregation)

LSB 357 vss. 1,6,7

Part One: The Prophecies of His Coming

(The lighting of the first candle)

Betsy Cochran: The first Advent candle is called the Candle of Prophecy. It symbolizes the Old Testament prophecies of the Advent, or coming, of the Savior. Today, we celebrate the fulfillment of those prophecies – the Savior’s coming on earth as a little child, his coming into our hearts by faith in God’s word, and his final coming in glory to judge all men.

Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, prophesied concerning the coming of the Savior: Blessed be the lord God of Israel, for he hath visited and redeemed his people, and hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David; as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began (Luke 1:68-70).

When Adam and Eve had fallen into sin God promised the Savior – the Seed of the woman – who would conquer Satan and sin: I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her Seed. It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel (Genesis 3:15).

When Moses spoke to the children of Israel he prophesied: The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken (Deuteronomy 18:15).

The prophet Isaiah rejoiced in the birth of the Savior when he prophesied: Unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).

The prophet Micah spoke of the little shepherd village where the Savior would be born: But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be Ruler in Israel, whose going forth have been from of old, from everlasting (Micah 5:2).

Song – We Hail Thee with Rejoicing (Congregation)

1. We hail Thee with rejoicing, O Christ-Child, fair and sweet;
And gladsome anthems voicing, Thy birthday now we greet.
On hay and straw they laid Thee in wretched poverty;
Our Christmas Gift God made Thee To make us pure and free.
2. O Savior, great and holy, How wondrous is thy love!
To sinners, poor and lowly, Thou comest from above.
So, let us now adore thee With hearts unfeigned and true,
And ever sing before thee, Glad melodies anew
3. Thou precious Gift from heaven Be thou our one and all,
The dearest Treasure given, Though cradled in a stall.
And grant that every nation And every child on earth
Rejoice in thy salvation, And in thy holy birth.

Part two: His Coming on Earth as a Little Child

(The lighting of the second candle)

Hannah Lanning: the second Advent candle is called the Bethlehem Candle. It represents the coming on earth of Jesus, the Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary.

When God in His wisdom decided that the time was right, he sent his Son into the world to become the Savior of all men. The long-promised Messiah was born, and the hope of countless believers was fulfilled. The story of his birth is told in the second chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke. It is the story of a wonderful miracle, because it tells us that the baby whose cradle was a manger, was truly God's own Son, who was born as a poor little child to become our brother, our Savior, and our King.

Song - God Loves Me Dearly (Children)

Luke 2:1-7

Wiley

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

Colton

Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

Jacob

And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Song – “Silent Night, Holy Night” (Congregation)

LSB 363

A Christmas Prayer (Jackie & Betsy’s class)

In a manger Jesus lies; Angels praise him in the skies.
Shepherds kneel before him low. To the stable let us go.
Light of heav’n and Morning Star, Little Jesus, thine we are.
Lead us as thy very own. To the Father’s shining throne.

Song - “Away In A Manger” (Children)

Luke 2:8-14

Carson

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

Abby

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.
The angel said unto them, “Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you: ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying.

Leah

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

Song – “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Congregation)

LSB 368

Part Three: His coming into Our Hearts by Faith

(The lighting of the third candle)

Jackie Stelzer: The third Advent candle is called the Shepherd Candle. It represents the coming of the Savior into our hearts through faith in his holy word. Even as the shepherds saw their Savior with their own eyes, and believed, so we see him now through the eyes of faith.

Luke 2:15-20

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.”

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Song – “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Congregation)

LSB 361

Ben - “We Can’t Be There” by Esther Poehler Wiechmann

We can’t be there in Bethlehem,
To worship, pray, or sing,
Nor travel like the wise men did,
With treasures, to our King!

But we can see Christ in his Word,
And know him through his love,
And we can send our hymns of praise,
Up to his throne above.

For as he came once long ago,
On that first Christmas day,
So every day he comes again
Into our hearts to Stay!

We know he died and rose again
To save us from our sin –
His holy Word comes to our hearts,
And lets God’s Spirit in!

Oh, thank you, Savior, for your love
In giving us this “Word.”
Although we haven’t seen – we’re yours,
For through your love – we’ve “heard”!

Song – “Oh, Come, All Ye Children” (Congregation)

1. Oh, come, all ye children, oh, come, one and all,
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.
God’s Son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your Redeemer, your Joy and Delight.
2. He’s born in a stable for you and for me,
Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see,
In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,
And purer than angels, the heavenly Child.
3. Kneel down and adore him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise him as they;
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

4. All glory and honor and praise ever sing
To God, born a child, yet our Savior and King.
For such love, O Jesus, accept now we pray
The thanks that we children here offer today.

5. We'll bring thee glad hearts as our off'rings today;
Receive them, O Jesus, and keep them always.
O cleanse us from evil, that pure we may be,
And live there forever, dear Savior, with thee.

Pastor: The Savior who comes into our hearts today is no longer a little child in a manger; he is the Savior who comes to us through God's Word – the Holy Scriptures, We have learned to confess our faith in Jesus our Savior in the words of Luther's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed:

I Believe

I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity.

I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, true God, is also true man, born of the Virgin Mary.

I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature.

I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, my Lord, has purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil.

I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, my Lord, has redeemed me, not with gold or silver, but with his holy precious blood and with his innocent sufferings and death.

I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, my Lord, has redeemed me that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

I BELIEVE that Jesus my Savior died for me, that he rose again from the dead, and that he lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

Song – “The Mission Prayer” (Congregation)

To ev'ry heart, to ev'ry home,
Thou blessed Christ Child, quickly come.
Light of the world, shine brightly on
Till all the sin of earth is gone.

Part Four: His Final Coming in Glory

(The lighting of the fourth candle)

Kim Rainey: The fourth Advent candle is called the Angel Candle. It represents the final coming of the Savior in glory with all his angels, to take all those who believe in Him to everlasting life in heaven.

“Christ is Coming” by John A. Trapp

1. “Christ is coming! Christ is coming!”
Shouted all the ancient prophets,
“Recognize him in his day:
Man of Sorrows, wounded for us,
Bruised to take our sins away.”

1. “Christ is coming! Christ is coming!”
Testified the holy angel,
“God and man are reconciled.
Born of Mary, virgin-mother,
God’s own Son becomes a child.”

2. Christ is coming! Christ is coming
By the power of his Spirit
To us in his holy Word,
Granting every joy and blessing.
That his presence can afford.

3. Christ is coming! Christ is coming,
Coming soon to judge the nations,
Then to bring us to that place
Where we shall behold his glory
And shall see him face to face.

Christ, the King of Glory

Pastor: You are the King of Glory, O Christ:

All: You are the everlasting Son of the Father.

Pastor: When you took upon yourself to deliver man:

All: You humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

Pastor: When you overcame the sharpness of death:

All: You opened the Kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Pastor: You are sitting at the right hand of God:

All: In the glory of the Father.

Unison: We believe that you will come to be our Judge. We therefore pray, help your servants whom you have redeemed with your precious blood; make them to be numbered with your saints in glory everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Song – “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” (Congregation)

LSB 386

Sermon: “Come Lord Jesus, Please Come”

Offering – “Joy to the World” - Jacob Cochran, pianist

Prayers

Benediction

Recessional Song – “Joy to the World” (Congregation)

LSB 387

The Advent Candles

Through the tender mercy of our God...the Dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. (Luke 1:78, 79)

THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE (blue) – the Candle of Prophecy.

Symbolizes the Old Testament prophecies of the Advent, or coming, of the Savior.

THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE (blue) – the Bethlehem Candle.

Symbolizes the coming on earth of Jesus, the Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary

THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE (pink) – The Shepherd Candle.

Symbolizes the coming of the Savior into our hearts and life through His holy Word.

THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE (blue) – the Angel Candle.

Symbolizes the final coming of the Savior in glory with all his angels for the Judgment.

THE CHRIST CANDLE (white)

Symbolizes the fulfillment of prophecy – the nativity of Jesus Christ, the Savior and Light of the world.

Please join us in the fellowship hall for a turkey dinner following the service.