

**Third Sunday in Advent—Lesson & Carols**  
**December 17, 2023 - 9:00 am**

**Rev. Bryan E. Drebes, Pastor**

Pacific Hills Lutheran Church 1110 South 90<sup>th</sup> Street, Omaha, NE 68124 402-391-9625 [www.pacifichillslutheran.org](http://www.pacifichillslutheran.org)

**Zachariah Hastings, Director of Music**

[www.pacifichillslutheran.org](http://www.pacifichillslutheran.org)

Our Mission: Share Christ † Serve Others



*He came as a witness,  
to bear witness about the light*

JOHN 1:7

# Third Sunday in Advent

December 17, 2022

9:00 am

**WELCOME** — We would like to extend a cordial welcome in our Lord's name to all who worship with us at Pacific Hills. We greet our guests with the love and peace of Jesus and pray that our sharing of God's Word will enrich your faith and life in Christ.

**PARISH INFORMATION** — Anyone who would like more information about Pacific Hills may speak to an usher, visit with a greeter in the welcome area or call the church office. You may also read about our ministries by going to our church's website. While there you can also read our weekly newsletter, "The Pacific Hills Messenger". To subscribe to our newsletter, send your e-mail to: [KimKielty@PacificHillsLutheran.org](mailto:KimKielty@PacificHillsLutheran.org)

**NURSERY** — Children are always welcome in worship! If a parent or guardian needs to step out with a child, a nursery is available in Room 112.

**HEARING ASSIST UNITS** — Hearing assist units are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.

**PHONES** — We thank you for silencing your mobile device or turning it off during worship.

**WORSHIP CARDS** — We kindly ask our guests and members to please complete a Worship Card located in the hymnal rack. The cards will be received by the ushers during the worship service. You may request a prayer or lift up a name by writing in on the back of the card. First names will be read during the parish prayers.

# WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS

## Our Service of Lessons & Carols

**About the Cover:** John was not the light, but his prophetic preaching testified to the light. Christ alone is the light that cannot be overcome by any darkness in this world – not even the darkness of death on the cross. Likewise, John’s preaching still enlightens today because Christ is its source. God’s Word casts out the works of darkness to bring us into the light of Christ so that we become the children of God.

### Prelude

### Welcome and Opening Prayer

### Advent Litany

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**C** Amen

**P** Out of Zion the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

**C** **Our God shall come; He does not keep his silence.**

**P** Prepare the way of the Lord.

**C** **Make His paths Straight.**

**P** Shower, O Heavens from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

**C** **Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.**

**P** He that testifies to these things says, “I am coming soon”

**C** **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

**P** The Spirit and the Church cry out:

**C** **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

**P** All those who await his appearance pray:

**C** **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

**P** The whole creation pleads:

**C** **Come, Lord Jesus, Come!**

# Opening Hymn LSB 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the  
 2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot  
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the  
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing  
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -  
 rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py  
 tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -  
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of  
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less  
 ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your



va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.  
 all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.  
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.  
 Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.  
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.  
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.  
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!

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## The First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-15

*Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Durch Adams Fall ist ganz verderbt, BWV 637*

by J.S. Bach

Organ

*God comforts his people and calls them to prepare for redemption.*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**LSB 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for - them; Tell her that her  
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

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*A new covenant is promised.*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Noël Nouvelet*

Arr. by Linda Scholes

Played by Bell Choir

The Fourth Lesson

Jeremiah 23:5-6

*God will raise up a righteous branch.*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

LSB 357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on  
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from Sa - tan's  
 5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst give the Law  
 tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y pow'r to save,  
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - jice! Re - jice!  
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re - jice! Re - jice!  
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - jice! Re - jice!  
 And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - jice! Re - jice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!  
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**Advent Prayer**  
by James E. Clemens

Sung by Choir and Congregation

Reproducible Congregational Page

# Advent Prayer

J. E. C.

JAMES E. CLEMENS

Come, Lord Je - sus, come and dwell,  
dwell in our hearts, Im - man - u - el.

- 1 We are waiting on this day; Jesus will take our fears away.  
We will keep our vigil here, as his Advent draws us near.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.  
**Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**
- 2 We are longing on this day; Jesus will take our sins away.  
As a shepherd, he will lead; gently tend our ev'ry need.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.  
**Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**
- 3 We are reaching on this day; Jesus will lead us, light our way.  
He will show the way of peace, from our darkness bring release.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.  
**Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**
- 4 We will expect him on that day; we prepare our hearts and pray.  
He will bless us with his grace, saving all the human race.  
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.  
**Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**
- 5 Jesus is coming on this night, sent from God to be our light.  
Let us praise our humble king, and with adoration sing,  
Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.  
**Come, Lord Jesus, come and dwell, dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.**  
Dwell in our hearts, Immanuel.

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## The Sixth Lesson

Micah 5:2-4

*The one who is to rule Israel will be born in Bethlehem.*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Manger Bound, Savior Found**

Sung by Choir

by Dan Irvin

## The Seventh Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

*The birth of Jesus foretold.*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### 356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,  
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,  
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;  
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:  
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;  
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.  
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,  
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."  
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!  
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

Text and tune: Public domain



John the Baptist proclaims the Advent of the Messiah.

The Angels and the Shepherds

Sung by Choir

Arr. by C.H. Trevor

Hanging of the Chrismos - Rose of Sharon

Homily

Rose of Sharon

Isaiah 35:1-10

Hymn of the Day

359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text (sts. 1-2): tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, alt.; (sts. 1-2, 4): German, 16th cent.; (st. 3): Friedrich L. C. Layritz, 1808-59; (st. 3): tr. Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845-1925; (st. 4): tr. John C. Mattes, 1876-1948  
 Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayers

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the gift of divine peace and pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all those in need, for the hungry and the homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick and the dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy**

*Offertory (Played by Bell Choir)*

*Un Flambeau*  
Arr. by Linda Scholes

## Collect For Advent

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, you once proclaimed salvation; now grant that we may know this salvation and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** **Amen**

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

## Closing Hymn 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re-flect Thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap-py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a-way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

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### Silent Prayer/Greeting

### Postlude

### Acknowledgments

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**LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**December 24, 2023 - 9:00 am Service**

**Readings**

Genesis 22:9-19  
Psalm 22:1-8, 15-19  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 19:1-16

**Hymns**

LSB 357  
LSB 449  
LSB 356  
LSB 342  
LSB 332

**Sermon**

Crown of Thorns and Nails  
John 19:1-16

***This Week at Pacific Hills***

**Sunday**  
**December 17**

7:45 am Bell Choir Rehearsal  
8:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 am Advent Lessons & Carols Worship  
6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

**Monday**  
**December 18**

6:30 pm Quilters (Quilting Room)

**Tuesday**  
**December 19**

7:00 pm Pray, Knit & Crochet Group (Narthex)

**Wednesday**  
**December 20**

9:30 am Eucharist (Zoom)  
12:30 pm First Ladies AA Meeting (Rm 114)  
2:00 pm Advent Worship Service  
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service

**Thursday**  
**December 21**

6:30 pm Board of Trustees Meeting (Rm 114b)

Sunday  
December 24

9:00 am Eucharistic Worship  
4:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
5:00 pm Family Christmas Eve Worship  
9:00 pm Christmas Eve Eucharistic Worship

Monday  
December 25

9:00 am Christmas Day Eucharistic Worship

Dr. Bob Vandervort and the Bible study group are studying the Books of Jude and 2 Peter via Zoom every Sunday evening from 6:00 - 6:45 pm. Please e-mail Bob at [rsvod@cox.net](mailto:rsvod@cox.net) or call 402-350-0872 for more information. Everyone is welcome!

For weekly announcements, please go to our website [www.PacificHillsLutheran.org](http://www.PacificHillsLutheran.org) and click "The Pacific Hills Messenger" (newsletter) in the navigation bar at the top. You may also subscribe to our e-mail list by sending your e-mail to: [KimKielty@PacificHillsLutheran.org](mailto:KimKielty@PacificHillsLutheran.org).

**Our Record of Response:**  
**Sunday, December 10**

Attendance: 104      Giving: \$5,300.00      Year to Date Giving\*: \$319,211.48

\* YTD Giving includes envelope offerings, e-offerings & capital fund contributions

### Presiding/Assisting This Day

Preaching & Presiding .....	Rev. Bryan Drebes
Organist .....	Zach Hastings
Artist.....	Michelle Steen
Acolyte .....	
Head Usher .....	Kevin Wilshusen
Head Elder.....	Mike Whealy
	Dan Irvin, Assist

### Readers

Lesson 1 .....	Kevin Warneke
Lesson 2.....	Kay Storck
Lesson 3.....	Brenda Whealy
Lesson 4.....	Sandy Frasier
Lesson 5.....	Ann Privitera
Lesson 6.....	Laura Troutman
Lesson 7.....	Sharon Vacanti
Lesson 8.....	Jon Wilshusen

For Weekly announcements, please go to our website [www.PacificHillsLutheran.org](http://www.PacificHillsLutheran.org) and click “The Pacific Hills Messenger” (newsletter) in the navigation bar at the top. You may also subscribe to our e-mail list by sending your e-mail to: [KimKielty@PacificHillsLutheran.org](mailto:KimKielty@PacificHillsLutheran.org).

Today’s altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Bailey Heathershaw in memory of Andrew Heathershaw.

# PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*



1110 South 90th Street  
Omaha, NE 68124

Church Office - (402) 391-9625  
Church Website—[www.pacifichillslutheran.org](http://www.pacifichillslutheran.org)

## THE STAFF OF PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

### Called & Professional Staff

Pastor	Rev. Bryan Drebes	1-913-282-2908
Director of Music	Zachariah Hastings	1-515-421-7768

### Support Staff

Administrative Assistant	Kimberly Kielty	402-391-9625
Lay Minister	Jim Mueller	402-390-2646
Children, Youth & Families	Pam Hafsaas	402-391-9625
Parish Nurse	Marilyn Wegehaupt	402-334-2896
Parish Nurse	Constance Ernstmeyer	402-651-8751
Custodian	Jason Sempek	402-391-9625

**Our Mission Statement**  
Share Christ † Serve Others