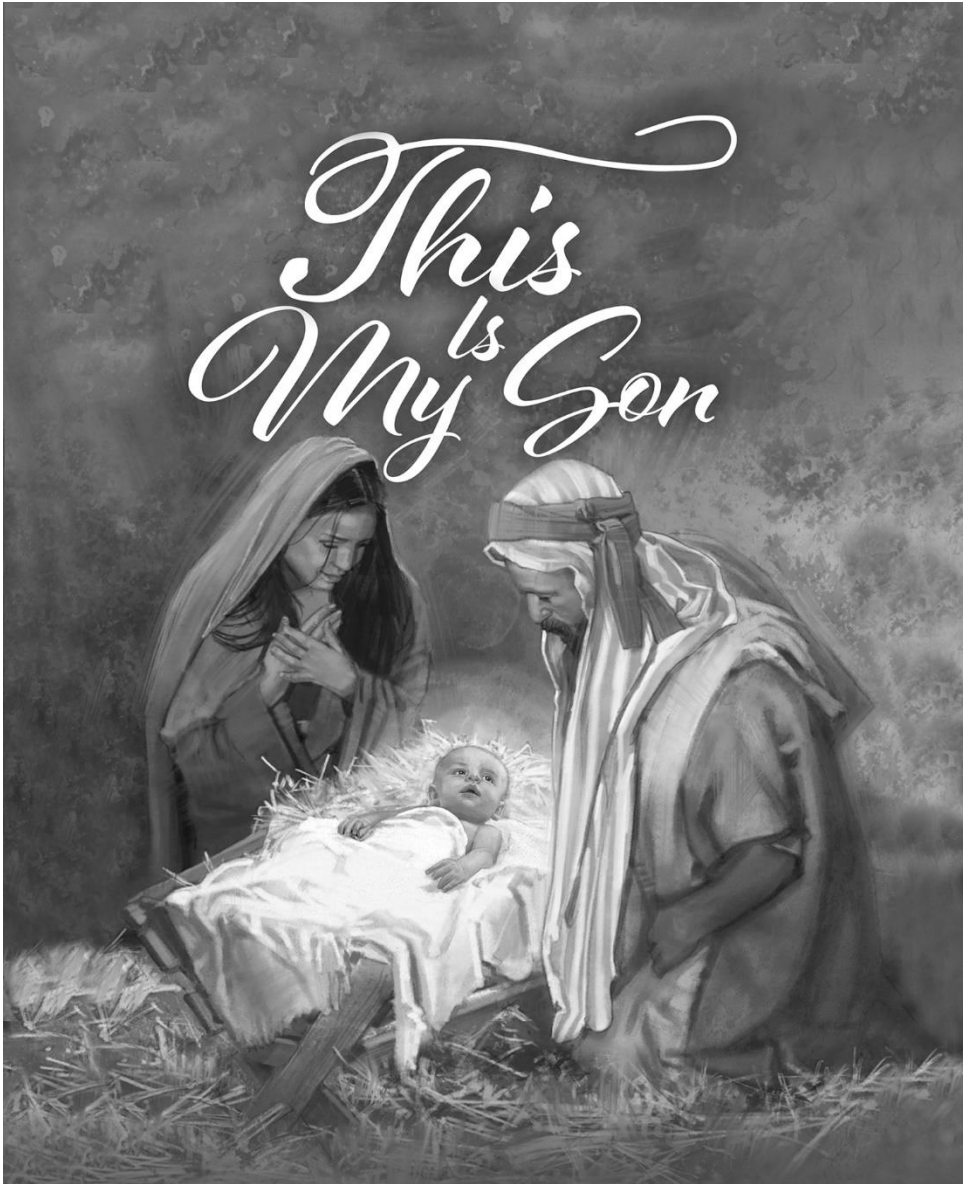


The Lutheran Church of the Savior



Advent Worship December 14, 2022

The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

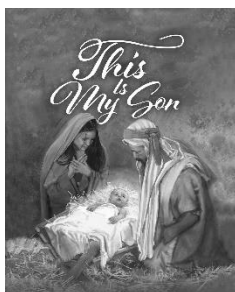
church@lcsavior.org

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Midweek of Advent 3

Advent Worship December 14, 2022



This is My Son: Absalom

By now, one would think we are getting the message. We often pin our hopes on passing things and even on people who cannot save. God promised to our first parents and then again to our "father in faith," Abraham, that one of their descendants would be our Savior from sin and death. Though He was their son, however, it was not yet Cain or Ishmael. God's promise increased to the great king David, whose hopes were dashed with tears at the death of his son Absalom. Faith must hang on to the depth of God's promise. It would be generations before God would finally send His own perfect Son, whose Baptism, suffering, death, and rising would bring forgiveness, life, and salvation to all who are children of God by faith in Jesus, great David's greater Son.

VESPERS

L O Lord, open my lips,

C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **make haste to help me, O Lord.**

C **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.**

Psalmody

Psalm

Psalm 146:3, 5; Psalm 110

Read responsively

Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

**Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord his God.**

The LORD says to my Lord:
"Sit at My right hand,
until I make Your enemies Your footstool."

**The LORD sends forth from Zion
Your mighty scepter.**

Rule in the midst of Your enemies!

Your people will offer themselves freely
on the day of Your power,
in holy garments;
from the womb of the morning,
the dew of Your youth will be Yours.

**The LORD has sworn
and will not change His mind,
"You are a priest forever
after the order of Melchizedek."**

The Lord is at Your right hand;
He will shatter kings on the day of His wrath.

**He will execute judgment among the nations,
filling them with corpses;
He will shatter chiefs
over the wide earth.**

He will drink from the brook by the way;
therefore He will lift up His head.

**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.**

Office Hymn

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

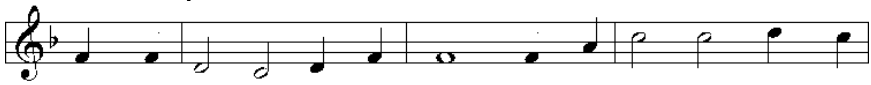
LSB 849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel. Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Readings

First Reading

2 Samuel 18:24–33

L A reading from Second Samuel, the eighteenth chapter.

²⁴Now David was sitting between the two gates, and the watchman went up to the roof of the gate by the wall, and when he lifted up his eyes and looked, he saw a man running alone. ²⁵The watchman called out and told the king. And the king said, "If he is alone, there is news in his mouth." And he drew nearer and nearer. ²⁶The watchman saw another man running. And the watchman called to the gate and said, "See, another man running alone!" The king said, "He also brings news." ²⁷The watchman said, "I think the running of the first is like the running of Ahimaaz the son of Zadok." And the king said, "He is a good man and comes with good news."

²⁸Then Ahimaaz cried out to the king, "All is well." And he bowed before the king with his face to the earth and said, "Blessed be the LORD your God, who has delivered up the men who raised their hand against my lord the king." ²⁹And the king said, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" Ahimaaz answered, "When Joab sent the king's servant, your servant, I saw a great commotion, but I do not know what it was." ³⁰And the king said, "Turn aside and stand here." So he turned aside and stood still.

³¹And behold, the Cushite came, and the Cushite said, "Good news for my lord the king! For the LORD has delivered you this day from the hand of all who rose up against you." ³²The king said to the Cushite, "Is it well with the young man Absalom?" And the Cushite answered, "May the enemies of my lord the king and all who rise up against you for evil be like that young man." ³³ And the king was deeply moved and went up to the chamber over the gate and wept. And as he went, he said, "O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! Would I had died instead of you, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

G **Thanks be to God.**



Second Reading

Ephesians 5:1–10

L A reading from Ephesians, the fifth chapter.

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

³But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading

Matthew 22:41–46

L A reading from Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴²saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." ⁴³He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴"The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet?"

⁴⁵If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory for Advent

LSB 230

- L** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- L** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

Sermon

This is My Son: Absalom

Canticle

Antiphon

LSB 231

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
- C** **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Magnificat

LSB 231

- L** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;
- C** **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.**
- L** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
- C** **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;**
- L** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
- C** **He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**
- L** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
- C** **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.**
- L** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
- C** **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.**

Prayer

Kyrie

LSB 233

- L** Lord, have mercy;
- C** **Christ, have mercy;**
- L** Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 233

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we 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.**

Collects

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** **And let my cry come to You.**

Collect of the Day

- L** Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**



Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving

Collect

L God our Father, You sent the true Son of David, Your only Son, to become a curse for us by hanging Him from the tree of the cross. By the sacrifice of His flesh, He has opened the way to eternal life through the forgiveness of our sins. As we have been baptized into His death, strengthen our faith always as heirs of Your heavenly kingdom; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Collect for Peace

L 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

LSB 234

L Let us bless the Lord.

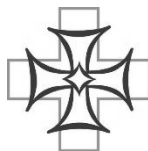
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234

L The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C Amen.



Closing Hymn

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

LSB 398



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - ccense bring;
5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.
From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;
The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A kingdom with - out end.
His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

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Acknowledgments

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Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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Advent, Christmas & New Year's Worship

Please join us in worship in this new Church Year



Midweek Advent Services

Wednesday, December 14th at 7:00 pm



Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24th at
4:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25th at 9:00 am



New Year's Eve Worship

Saturday, December 31st at 7:00 pm

New Year's Day Worship

Sunday, January 1st at 9:00 am