



## *O Come, Emmanuel* **Advent and Christmas Series**

Trinity and Mt. Hope Lutheran Churches  
Gaylord and Grayling, Michigan

### **Order of Service**

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **Christmas Eve Service – “Come, O Dayspring”**

*Theme Verse: I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Luke 2:10*

**OPENING HYMN** – “*O Come, All Ye Faithful*” (Lutheran Service Book # 379)

#### **INVOCATION and OPENING VERSES**

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**P:** For centuries, the Church has used during Advent and Christmas a series of antiphons, or responses, to prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ’s birth. These seven responses, names and titles for our Savior, are often called the “O Antiphons,” familiar to us in the hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” Today we see all the candles of our Advent wreath lighted as we celebrate the birth of the Light of the World, Jesus Christ. O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:

**C:** **Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.**

**P:** The prophet Isaiah says, “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**C:** **For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;**

**P:** “But the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

**C:** **And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.”**

**P:** Jesus said, “I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star... Surely I am coming soon.”

**C:** **“Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!”**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask His forgiveness.

C: **Almighty God, on this Christmas Eve we celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Lord and Light. Yet so often we turn from the light of Your love and walk in darkness. We sin against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. In this season of light and love, we so often fail to show our love toward You and toward each other. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ.**

P: God in His mercy has given us the gift of His Son to forgive us all our sins! On this day we celebrate the Light born among us who banishes the darkness of sin from our lives. He bore our sin to the cross to pay the penalty of death, and He rose again on the third day. He now lives and rules as our Lord and King. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen. Lord Jesus, bright Morning Star, rise in our hearts and fill us with your joy and light! Amen!**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have sent Your Son to be our Savior. He is the dawning light, the Dayspring, the bright Morning Star. He is the Light of the world and His light banishes the darkness of sin and fear. As Your baptized sons and daughters, we walk now as children of light, following in the footsteps of Jesus our Lord. On this day, as we celebrate His birth in Bethlehem, we are filled with joy because the light of Your salvation now shines on us. We pray that Your light will shine through us so that others would come to know and worship Jesus as Lord. We pray, too, that our Lord, the root and descendant of David, will come again soon. Hear our prayers and accept our grateful praise in the name of Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN – “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (Lutheran Service Book # 380)**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

<sup>2</sup> For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.

<sup>3</sup> And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

<sup>5</sup> Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

<sup>6</sup> A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **EPISTLE READING**

*Revelation 22:1-5, 16-17, 20*

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. <sup>4</sup>They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever....

<sup>16</sup>“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

<sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price....

<sup>20</sup>He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **VERSE**

*Luke 2:14*

P: Alleluia! Glory to God in the highest,

C: **and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased! Alleluia!**

### **GOSPEL READING**

*Luke 2:1-20*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

<sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

C: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

**SERMON HYMN** – “*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*” sts. 1 and 6 (*Lutheran Service Book #357*)

**SERMON** – “*Come, O Dayspring*”

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Each petition ends with this response:* P: Lord, in Your mercy,  
C: **hear our prayer.**

## 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.**

*HYMN – “Silent Night, Holy Night” (Lutheran Service Book # 363)*

## CLOSING SENTENCES and BLESSING

P: And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

C: **“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”**

P: Jesus said, “I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star... Surely I am coming soon.”

C: **“Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!”**

P: The grace of the + Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **Amen.**

## Acknowledgements

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