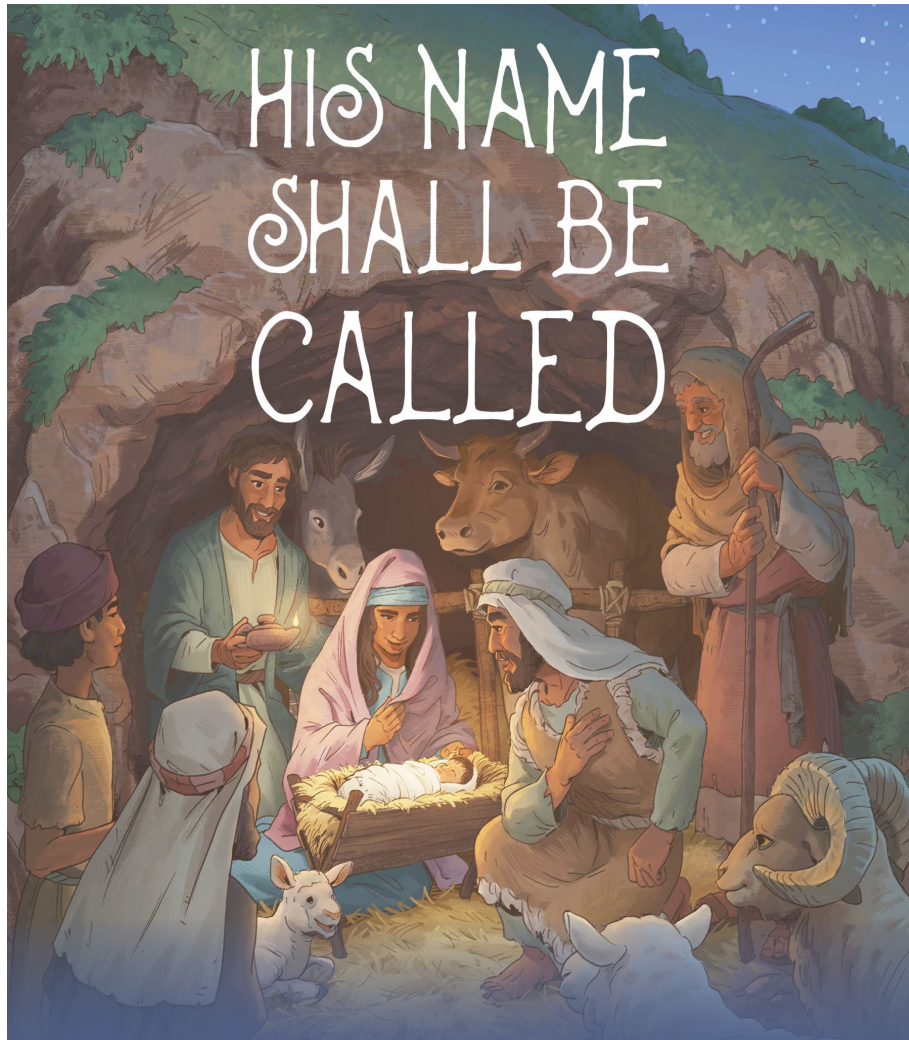


**St. John Lutheran Church & School  
Berlin, Wisconsin  
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod**



**December 11, 2024  
The Second Midweek Advent Service  
"Mighty God"**

***Large Print Bulletin***

## **As We Gather**

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. We will examine the four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6—Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace—and will study 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.

## **Invocation**

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

**C Amen.**

**900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love    *sts. 1–2, 6***

**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.**

**6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.**

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt. Text: Public domain

### **Confession and Absolution**

P Our Mighty God came into the flesh as one of us, and He knows our needs and weaknesses. Let us therefore confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

**C I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

**C Amen.**

### **First Reading**

*Isaiah 9:1–2, 6–7*

P A reading from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>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.

**C <sup>6</sup>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.**

P <sup>7</sup>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.**

**332 Savior of the Nations, Come sts. 6, 8**

**6 For You are the Father's Son**

**Who in flesh the vict'ry won.**

**By Your mighty pow'r make whole**

**All our ills of flesh and soul.**

△ **8 Glory to the Father sing,  
Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be  
Now and through eternity.**

**Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (st. 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001 Text (st. 6): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005513**

## **Second Reading**

*Titus 2:11–14*

P A reading from Titus, the second chapter.

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>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.**

**361 O Little Town of Bethlehem    *st. 4***

**4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,**

**Descend to us, we pray;**

**Cast out our sin, and enter in,**

**Be born in us today.**

**We hear the Christmas angels**

**The great glad tidings tell;**

**O come to us, abide with us,**

**Our Lord Immanuel!**

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93    Text: Public domain

### **Third Reading**

*John 5:16–18; 8:48–59*

P A reading from John, the fifth and eighth chapters.

<sup>16</sup>And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. <sup>17</sup>But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

<sup>18</sup>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.

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do

not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." <sup>52</sup>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.'" <sup>53</sup>Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" <sup>54</sup>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.'" <sup>55</sup>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. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." <sup>57</sup>So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" <sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." <sup>59</sup>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**

*Jeremiah 23:5a, 6*

P 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.**

P 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.**

**P** 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.**

**412 The People That in Darkness Sat**

**1 The people that in darkness sat**

**A glorious light have seen;**

**The light has shined on them who long**

**In shades of death have been,**

**In shades of death have been.**

**2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness,**

**The gath'ring nations come;**

**They joy as when the reapers bear**

**Their harvest treasures home,**

**Their harvest treasures home.**

**3 To us a Child of hope is born,**

**To us a Son is giv'n,**

**And on His shoulder ever rests**

**All pow'r in earth and heav'n,**

**All pow'r in earth and heav'n.**

**4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,**

**The Everlasting Lord,**

**The Wonderful, the Counselor,**

**The God by all adored,**

**The God by all adored.**



**5 His righteous government and pow'r  
Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based,  
His reign shall have no end,  
His reign shall have no end.**

**△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
And make us Thine alone,  
Who with the Father ever art  
And Holy Spirit, one,  
And Holy Spirit, one.**

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt. Text: Public domain

**Sermon**

**Offering**

**531 Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus *st. 4***

**4 Worship, honor, pow'r, and blessing**

**Thou art worthy to receive;  
Highest praises, without ceasing,  
Right it is for us to give.**

**Help, ye bright angelic spirits,  
All your noblest anthems raise;  
Help to sing our Savior's merits,  
Help to chant Immanuel's praise!**

Text: Hymns Addressed to the Holy, Holy, Holy, Triune God, 1757, London, alt.; A Collection of Psalms and Hymns, 1760, London, alt.

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Prayer for Today**

P Open our eyes, heavenly Father, that we may see all that You have done.

**C By coming in the person of Your Son and by His sacrifice for us, You have assured us that the worldly forces around us shall be a thing of the past when Your Spirit ushers us into Your eternal presence;**

P through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Luther's Evening Prayer**

**C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.**

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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 almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.**

**C Amen.**

## **348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns**

**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!**

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt. Text: Public domain

## **Dismissal**

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Acknowledgments**

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