



Morning Service Advent Sunday 29 November 2020



Welcome

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Responses and Prayer of Praise

1 Peter 1v3-5

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade-- kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Hymn

At the name of Jesus Every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess Him King of glory now;
'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.

2. Humbled for a season, To receive a name
From the lips of sinners Unto whom He came;
Faithfully He bore it Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious, When from death He passed.

3. Bore it up triumphant With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, To the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.

4. In your hearts enthrone Him; There let Him subdue
All that is not holy, All that is not true;
Crown Him as your Captain In temptation's hour,
Let His will enfold you In its light and power.

GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS OUR SINS

Confession

Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away

our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God's Promise of Forgiveness

1 Timothy 1v15

¹⁵ Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Words of Thanks and Praise

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GOD CALLS US TO SERVE HIM

Bible Reading

Isaiah 7v1-25

¹ When Ahaz son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel marched up to fight against Jerusalem, but they could not overpower it.

² Now the house of David was told, "Aram has allied itself with Ephraim"; so the hearts of Ahaz and his people were shaken, as the trees of the forest are shaken by the wind.

³ Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go out, you and your son Shear-Jashub, to meet Ahaz at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, on the road to the Washerman's Field. ⁴ Say to him, 'Be careful, keep calm and don't be afraid. Do not lose heart because of these two smouldering stubs of firewood--because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and of the son of Remaliah. ⁵ Aram, Ephraim and Remaliah's son have plotted your ruin, saying, ⁶ "Let us invade Judah; let us tear it apart and divide it among ourselves, and make the son of Tabeel king over it." ⁷ Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says:

"It will not take place, it will not happen, ⁸ for the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is only Rezin. Within sixty-five years

Ephraim will be too shattered to be a people.⁹ The head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is only Remaliah's son. If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all."

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also?¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.¹⁵ He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right.¹⁶ But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.¹⁷ The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah--he will bring the king of Assyria."

¹⁸ In that day the LORD will whistle for flies from the distant streams of Egypt and for bees from the land of Assyria.¹⁹ They will all come and settle in the steep ravines and in the crevices in the rocks, on all the thornbushes and at all the water holes.²⁰ In that day the Lord will use a razor hired from beyond the River-- the king of Assyria--to shave your head and the hair of your legs, and to take off your beards also.²¹ In that day, a man will keep alive a young cow and two goats.²² And because of the abundance of the milk they give, he will have curds to eat. All who remain in the land will eat curds and honey.²³ In that day, in every place where there were a thousand vines worth a thousand silver shekels, there will be only briars and thorns.²⁴ Men will go there with bow and arrow, for the land will be covered with briars and thorns.²⁵ As for all the hills once cultivated by the hoe, you will no longer go there for fear of the briars and thorns; they will become places where cattle are turned loose and where sheep run.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Words of belief

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and

he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**means universal*

Advent Collect, Prayers of intercession and Lord's Prayer

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility so that on the last day, when he will come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

Hymn

Lo! he comes with clouds descending, Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of his train:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God appears, on earth to reign.

2. Every eye shall now behold him Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him, Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing, Deeply wailing, Shall the true Messiah see.

3. Now redemption, long expected, See in solemn pomp appear!
All his saints, by man rejected, Now shall meet him in the air.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! see the day of God appear.

4. Yea, Amen! let all adore thee, High on thy eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory: Claim the kingdom of thine own:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Everlasting God, come down !

Blessing

1 Thessalonians 5v23-24

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**