

Advent

December 6, 2022

LAKE OCONEE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wednesday Advent

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

*God writes His Word on our Lives, building us into a Family engaged
in Spirit-filled Service.*



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Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are
available from the ushers

The Hymn

Once He Came in Blessing

Hymn 333



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

The Invocation

P Give glory to the coming King

C Oh, come, let us worship Him.

P The Spirit and the Church cry out:

C Come, Lord Jesus

P All those who await His appearance pray:

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P The whole creation pleads:

C Come, Lord Jesus.

All: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Confession and Absolution

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

C Loving Father, who sent Jesus as the promised child, our Savior, we confess that our waiting has distracted our Advent and turned us to follow our own way. Forgive us for shaping the celebration to fit our desires. Focus our eyes and hearts on the coming Christ. Inspire us with Christ's advent so that we shout from the housetops the Good News that in the coming Savior God is indeed with us. Make us into your joy-filled messengers, sharing your powerful message of salvation for all.

P Jesus has promised that the sins we forgive on earth will also be forgiven in heaven. Trusting that precious promise, as a called and ordained minister of the Gospel, I confidently declare to you that, in Jesus Christ, all of your sins are forgiven and you are privileged to share that same forgiveness with all the others in your life. We are filled with Jesus' light of life so that we can shine among the people of this world like stars in the sky.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 80

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

3 Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

6 You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

8 You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.
9 You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
10 The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.
11 It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.
12 Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
13 The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.
14 Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, 15 the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself. 16 They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!
17 But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself! 18 Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name! 19 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

The New Testament Reading

Romans 5:6-11

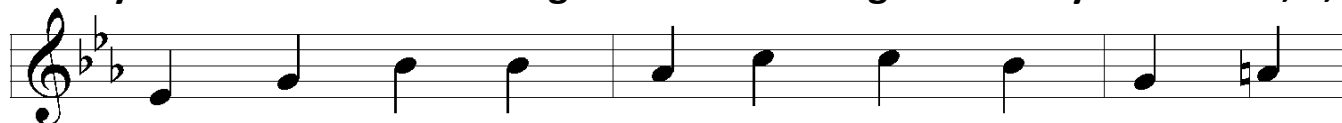
6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Gospel Reading

John 3:16-17

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Hymn “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding” Hymn 345 v 1, 3, 5



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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The Message

The Prayers

Pastor: Advent Lord, we long for your return.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Pastor: Lord and Savior, forgive us when we are too distracted by the noise around us to listen to you. Forgive us when we grow impatient and unkind toward others and put our preparations ahead of the people in our lives. Help us to look forward to our celebrations with joy and peace. Advent Lord, we long for your return.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Pastor: Lord and Savior, lead us to help those in need during this holiday season, to share with others the blessings you have given us. Comfort those

who suffer in illness, grief or loneliness, especially those we name in our hearts ... Advent Lord, we long for your return.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Pastor: Lord and Savior, because of your death and resurrection, we can now serve you without fear, in holiness and righteousness before you all the days of our lives. Fill us with joy as we prepare to celebrate your birth, and let our joy overflow into the lives of others, so that they too will worship you as their Savior. Advent Lord, we long for your return.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Pastor: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Blessing

Pastor; The Lord Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

People: Amen.

The Closing Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Hymn 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.