



Advent 1
Christ is Coming: Be Ready!

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 1, 2019

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We love that you are here today! The library in the back serves as a **quiet room** for parents with children. **Restrooms** are in the hallway to the right and also across the hall on the right side, opposite the school office. **Quiet bags** with activities for young children are available on the rack just inside the doors of this worship space.

TODAY'S FOCUS

On the first Sunday in Advent, we hear the voice of our Savior urgently tell us: "Be ready." This is not a call to get busy with our Christmas decorations and preparations, but to be ready for the day when Christ comes again and this world as we know it comes to an end.

The call is urgent because we do not know the day or hour and the Apostle tells us in our second lesson that the "day is drawing near." The call is urgent because our Lord does not want us to miss out on the rescue and joy He brings or to end up lost and ruined, as so many in the days of Noah who rejected the Lord's warning.

Therefore, let us look to Christ, who just as He rescued Noah and his family, also gives us the rescue we need to be ready. For more information on the season of Advent, see the back cover.

SINGING THIS MORNING

We thank the Senior Choir for enriching our worship and encouraging us to watch for the day of the Lord's coming through song.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

- Presider Rev. Shaun Arndt
- Organist..... Mrs. Jennifer Werre
- Choir Director Mrs. Joan Eggert
- Ushers..... Team #3 8:00 – Meyer(c); 10:30 – Dobbratz(c)
Monday Night – Ross

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Today we begin a new Church Year with the Season of Advent. Our word “Advent” is derived from the Latin for “coming” or “arrival.” Advent is a time of preparation when we anticipate the arrival of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

There are actually three Advents of Jesus the Bible teaches us about:

Christ’s coming to this world as the God-Man to save us, which we celebrate at Christmas.
Christ’s coming again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead and to bring His believing people the full enjoyment of the victory over sin and death He won for us.

Christ’s coming to us right now in the Gospel (the good news of God’s love and forgiveness) in the Bible, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper (Word and Sacrament).

It is through the Holy Spirit’s working repentance and faith by Word and Sacrament that we are ready for every arrival of Jesus, whether it be our celebration of His birth at Christmas or His coming again on the last day.

The general themes of the four Sundays in Advent can be summarized as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Advent 1 – Readiness | We hear Jesus’ call to be ready for His coming again. |
| Advent 2 – Repentance | We listen to St. John the Baptizer prepare the way for Jesus by believing the dread and deadly reality of our sin and looking in faith to Christ the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. |
| Advent 3 – Rejoicing | The good news that Christ comes to rescue us and restore us to God brings joy and peace to our hearts to encourage us while we still live in this world of struggle and sorrow. |
| Advent 4 – Revelation | God’s Word reveals and Spirit-worked faith believes what we could never know or believe on our own: the child born of Mary, the eternal God the Son, is our Savior! |

THE ADVENT WREATH

As successive candles are lit on the wreath and the light grows, we are reminded how God gave successive promises about the coming Savior through the prophets, until at His birth “the true Light that gives light to every man” had arrived into this world (John 1:9).



Mission Statement

As men, women and children united in faith and worship by the Word of God, we are **committed to making disciples**, using the gospel to win the lost for Christ, and nurturing believers for Christian service, all to the glory of God.

Service Times

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am; Monday 6:30 pm

Television: Sunday 9:00 am

channel 98 analog; channel 983 digital
TDS channel 13

www.peacewels.org

1007 Stonehaven Dr., Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Church Office: (608) 837-5346

church.office@peacewels.org

School Office: (608) 834-1200

school.office@peacewels.org

Pastor Shaun Arndt

shaun.arndt@peacewels.org

Pastor Luke Werre

luke.werre@peacewels.org

Principal Kyle Raymond

kyle.raymond@peacewels.org

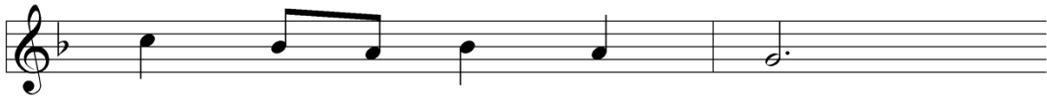
Early Childhood Director Kirsten Duin

kirsten.duin@peacewels.org

OPENING HYMN



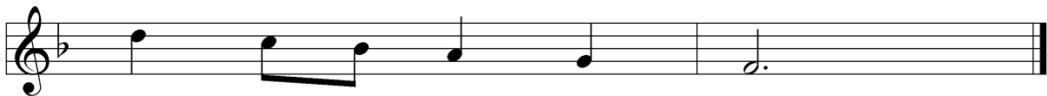
1 The ad - vent of our King Our
 2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In -
 3 O Zi - on's Daugh - ter, rise To
 4 As judge, on clouds of light, He
 5 Be - fore the dawn - ing Day Let



prayers must now em - ploy,
 car - nate deigns to be,
 meet your low - ly King,
 soon will come a gain
 sin's dark deeds be gone,



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In
 Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To
 Nor let a faith - less heart de - spise The
 And his true mem - bers all u - nite With
 The sin - ful self be put a - way, The



strains of ho - ly joy.
 set his ser - vants free.
 peace he comes to bring.
 him in heav'n to reign.
 new self now put on.

6 All glory to the Son,
 Who comes to set us free,
 With Father, Spirit, ever one
 Through all eternity.

Please stand

M: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

Please be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

We light the first Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

We hear his call to be ready.

We light the first Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

RESPONSIVE SONG

(Red hymnal 23 melody, "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel")

**Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times gave holy law, in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

**Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 6:9-22, 7:11-23

⁹This is the account about the development of Noah's family.

Noah was a righteous man, a man of integrity in that generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. ¹¹In the sight of God the earth was morally corrupt, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹²God looked at the earth and saw that it was corrupt, for all flesh was corrupt in all their ways on the earth.

¹³So God said to Noah, "I have decreed the end of all flesh, because the earth is filled with violence because of them. Now I am going to destroy them along with the earth.

¹⁴"Make an ark of gofer wood. Make rooms in the ark. Seal it inside and outside with pitch. ¹⁵This is how you are to make it: The length of the ark is to be 450 feet, its width 75 feet, and its height 45 feet. ¹⁶Make a roof for the ark, and leave an eighteen-inch opening just under the roof. Place a door on the side of the ark. Make it with lower, second, and third decks.

¹⁷"I myself am about to bring a flood of waters on the earth, in order to destroy all flesh under the sky that has the breath of life. Everything that is on the earth will die, ¹⁸but I will establish my covenant with you. You shall come into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹You shall bring a pair (male and female) of every kind of living flesh into the ark with you to keep them alive. ²⁰Include the birds according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, every creeping thing on the ground according to their kinds. Two of every sort shall come to you, so you can keep them alive. ²¹Take with you every type of food that is eaten, and store it for yourself, so it can be used as food for you and for them."

²²So that is what Noah did. He did everything that God commanded him, just as he had been told.

^{7:11}In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that very day, all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. ¹²The rain came down on the earth for forty days and forty nights.

¹³On that same day Noah, Noah's sons Shem, Ham, and Japheth, Noah's wife, and the three wives of his sons along with them, entered the ark. ¹⁴They went in with every animal according to its kind, all the livestock according to their kinds, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth according to its kind, and everything that flies according to its kind, flying birds of every sort. ¹⁵Pairs of all the animals that have the breath of life in them went to Noah in the ark. ¹⁶A male and female of each animal that breathes went in, just as God had commanded Noah. Then the LORD shut Noah in.

¹⁷The flood kept coming on the earth for forty days. The waters became deeper and lifted up the ark until it floated high above the earth. ¹⁸The water kept increasing and overwhelmed the

earth, and the ark was carried along on the surface of the water. ¹⁹The water overwhelmed the earth. All the high mountains that were under the entire sky were covered. ²⁰The waters rose more than twenty feet above the mountains and covered them.

²¹All living creatures that moved on the earth perished, including birds, livestock, wild animals, every creeping thing that crawls on the earth, and all mankind. ²²Everything that breathed the breath of life through its nostrils, that is, everything that was on the dry land, died. ²³Every living thing that was on the face of the earth was wiped out, including mankind, livestock, creeping things, and birds of the sky. They all were wiped off the earth. Only Noah was left, as well as those who were with him in the ark.

SENIOR CHOIR

The Day of the Lord

*We watch, Lord, for the day of your coming,
not knowing when it will be,
the day of your blest returning
in glory and majesty.*

*We watch, Lord, for the day of salvation
we've waited so long to see,
the dawning of the new day in heaven,
beginning of eternity.*

*The dead will rise to meet you,
your foll'wers from the grave,
on that great resurrection day,
those who by grace are saved.*

*We'll sing with the angels
a new and joyous song
forever with you in glory there.
Lord Jesus, don't wait long.
Lord Jesus, don't wait long.*

SECOND LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹And do this since you understand the present time. It is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is almost over, and the day is drawing near. So let us put away the deeds of darkness and put on the weapons of light. ¹³Let us walk decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual sin and wild living, not in strife and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not give any thought to satisfying the desires of your sinful flesh.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

Please stand

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶"No one knows when that day and hour will be, not the angels of heaven, not even the Son, but only the Father.

³⁷"Just as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be when the Son of Man returns. ³⁸In fact, in the days before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the very day that Noah entered the ark. ³⁹And they did not realize what was coming until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be when the Son of Man returns.

⁴⁰"At that time two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.

⁴²"So be alert, because you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

⁴³"But understand this: If the master of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

⁴⁴"You also need to be ready for this reason: The Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not expect him."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Day of Wrath, Oh, Day of Mourning | 209



1 Day of wrath, oh, day of mourn - ing!
2 Death is struck and na - ture quak - ing;
3 See, the book, ex - act - ly word - ed,
4 What shall I in awe be plead - ing,
5 King of maj - es - ty tre - men - dous,



See ful - filled the proph - ets' warn - ing:
All cre - a - tion is a - wak - ing,
Where - in all has been re - cord - ed—
Who for me be in - ter - ced - ing
Who does free sal - va - tion send us,



Heav'n and earth in ash - es burn - ing.
To its judge an - swer mak - ing.
Thus shall judg - ment be a - ward - ed.
When your mer - cy I am need - ing?
Fount of pi - ty, then be - friend us.

6 Think, good Jesus—my salvation 7 On the cross your dying spared me;
Caused your wondrous incarnation, Just and righteous you declared me;
Made you suffer my damnation! I await the joy prepared me.

THEME: Be Ready

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

Please be seated

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

Peace members have committed themselves to supporting this ministry with their gifts and offerings. Visitors need not feel obliged to participate in this offering. We do ask you to fill out a "Connection" card from the chair in front of you and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher. Thank you!

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

Please be seated

HYMN

Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes | 9



1 Je - sus, your Church with long - ing eyes For your ex -
2 E'en now, when tem - pests round us fall And win - try
3 Come, gra - cious Lord, our hearts re - new, Our sins for -
4 Oh, come and reign o'er ev - 'ry land; Let Sa - tan
5 Teach us in watch - ful - ness and prayer To wait for



pect - ed com - ing waits. When will the prom - ised
clouds o'er - cast the sky, Your words with plea - sure
give, our foes sup - press, Our root - ed en - mi -
from his throne be hurled. Let na - tions bow to
your ap - point - ed hour, And fit us by your



light a - rise And glo - ry beam from heav - en's gates?
we re - call And know that our re - demp - tion's nigh.
ty sub - due, And crown your gos - pel with suc - cess.
your com - mand; Let grace re - vive a dy - ing world.
grace to share The tri - umphs of your con - qu'ring pow'r.

Please stand

O Jesus, King of Glory and Prince of Peace, we thank you that you became flesh for us, that you became poor and lowly to bring us your righteousness and peace, which you give us in Word and sacrament. Prepare us this Advent season so that we do not take you for granted, but receive you into our hearts as Savior and King, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



BLESSING

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel | 23 v.1

**Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

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