

Welcome to Worship! December 8, 2024 Second Sunday of Advent Advent Cantata









Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say. "Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"

Wakened by the solemn warning, from earth's bondage let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

See the Lamb, so long expected, come with pardon down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiv'n;

So, when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son with the everlasting Spirit while unending ages run!

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.



P: God of mercy,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.



P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.



P: God in our midst,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through + Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: Amen.

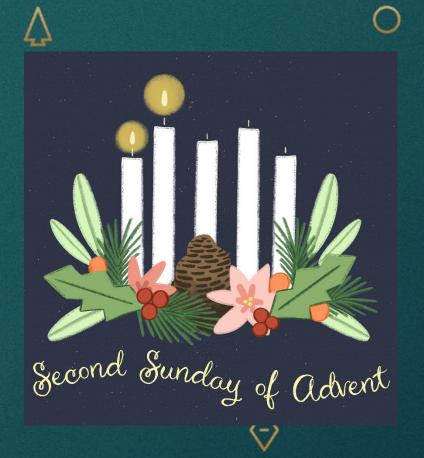
Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Please be seated for the lighting of the Advent wreath.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

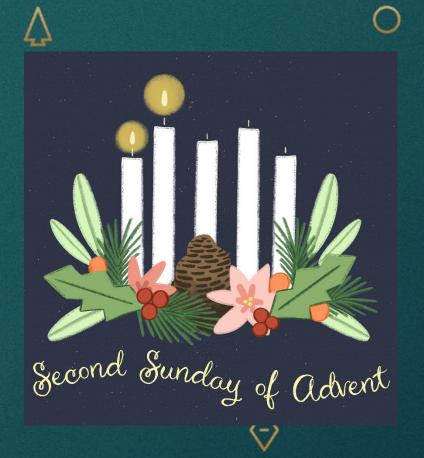


The Second Candle: Love

Advent Verse

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath



The Second Candle: Love





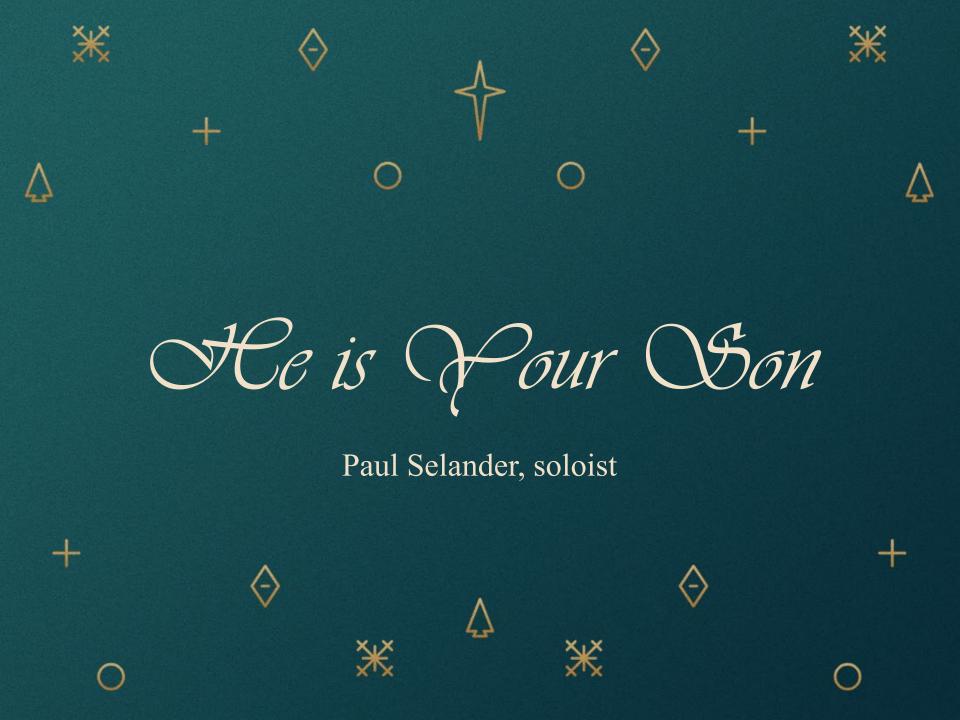




























Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Verse 1

Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near! Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear! Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story: Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Verse 2

God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you!

Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Verse 3

Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing:

Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Verse 4

His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above. His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love. So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding:

Prepare the Royal Highway, ELW #264, Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

Advent Creed

- A: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using an Advent Creed.
- C: We believe in one God, who is Creator, maker of all we see and all we don't see. Who is Ruler of the universe: Source of all creation!



We believe in one God, who is Jesus Christ, God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human. He is one with the Creator; the Word made flesh, our Messiah: Savior of all creation!



We believe in one God, who is Holy Spirit, Breath of God moving among us; Who is one with the Creator; one with the Christ; our Comforter and our Guide: Mentor of all creation!

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Prayers of Intercession

A: As we prepare for Emmanuel, Godwith-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.





The prayers conclude:

A: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Presentation of Tithes and Gifts

Scan the QR code or go to stphilip-co.org/giving/ to make a donation today. Children may come forward and place their offering in the basket.



Anthem

Ben Corwyn, piano



What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man I would do my part; yet what I can I give him give my heart.

Offering Prayer

Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Words of Institution



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.

Communion

You are welcome to move to the aisle as indicated by the ushers. Take an empty cup from the tray or a cup of grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available. Children who are not receiving communion are encouraged to come forward and receive a blessing.

All are welcome, for it is the Lord's Table.

Lamb of God

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel; God with us, revealed in us; his name is called Emmanuel.



All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last! Furrows lie open for God's creative task: this, the labor of people who struggle to see how God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell; "A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel"; she conceived him, "God with us," our brother whose birth Restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared; new highways opened, new protocols declared. Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace! All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste come out in haste!

We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib. This same Lord Jesus today has come to live in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.



Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, ELW #254, Verse 1

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, ELW #254, Verse 2

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king; born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.



He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light; hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace; hallelujah forevermore.

He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy; hallelujah forevermore.



There's a Voice in the Wilderness, ELW #255, Verse 1

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod: Prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God! The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; make straight all the crooked places where God, our God, may go!

There's a Voice in the Wilderness, ELW #255, Verse 2

O Jerusalem, herald good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their king. Like flow'rs of the field we perish, like grass our works decay; the pow'r and the pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.

But the word of our Savior is faithful, the arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the nations and soon will right the wrong. Lord, feed your flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold; in pastures of peace now lead them, and bring them to your fold.





Post-Communion Blessing

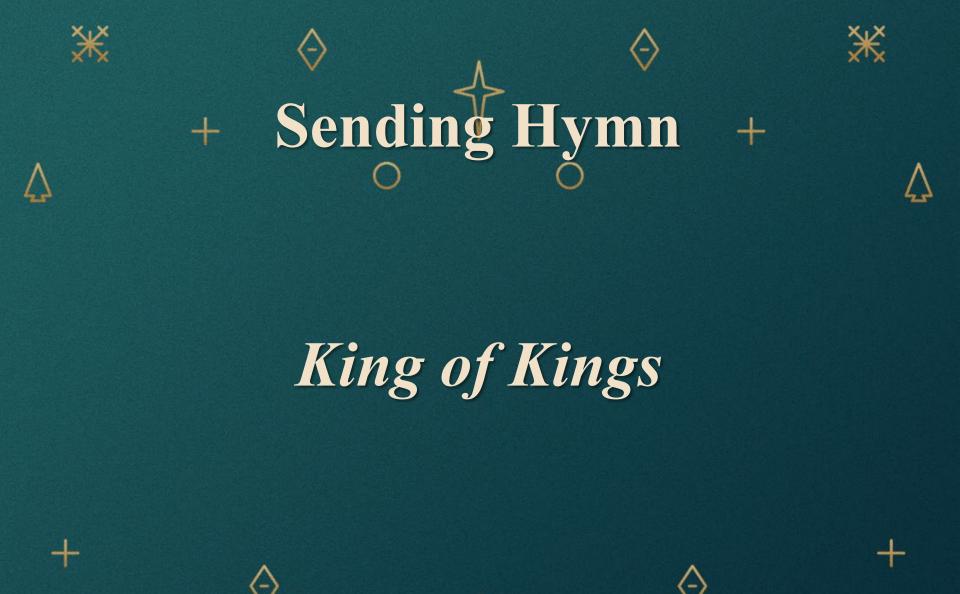
P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Post-Communion Prayer

Generous God, we thank you for A: the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.



P: God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
+ bless and keep you now and forever.



King of kings and Lord of lords: glory (clap), hallelujah. King of kings and Lord of lords: glory (clap), hallelujah. Jesus, Price of Peace: glory (clap), hallelujah. Jesus, Prince of Peace: glory (clap), hallelujah.

Repeat



P: Go in peace.
Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: Thanks be to God.







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