



BLESSED SACRAMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Man’s maker was made man, that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother’s breast; that the Bread might hunger, the Fountain thirst, the Light sleep, the Way be tired on its journey; that the Truth might be accused of false witness, the Teacher be beaten with whips, the Foundation be suspended on wood; that Strength might grow weak; that the Healer might be wounded; that Life might die.” St. Augustine of Hippo

Dear Saints,

First Sunday of Advent 27 Nov. 2020

Advent is upon us. It is the season that begins the liturgical year that ties the rhythm of earthly life with the rhythm of heavenly life. The word “advent” is derived from the Latin *adventus*, which means “coming” or “arrival.” In the Roman Empire, the word *adventus* referred to the arrival of a person of dignity or great power — a king, emperor, or even one of the gods. For Christians, Advent is the time when the Church patiently prepares for the coming of the Great King, Jesus the Christ. Quite appropriately, then, Advent follows Christ the King Sunday.

Advent is the first part of a larger liturgical season that includes Christmas and Epiphany and continues until the beginning of Lent. Even though Advent occurs in the month of December and is often considered as a prelude to Christmas, it is not simply about waiting for the birth of Christ. The preparatory and penitential aspects of Advent focus on Christ’s second coming as Judge of the world on the last day, the “Day of the Lord.” Despite the penitential tone, Advent is a time for holy joy and preparation that emphasizes four advents or comings:

- The prophetic coming that points to Christ’s birth
- The incarnate coming of Christ in Bethlehem
- The sacramental coming in the waters of Holy Baptism and, supremely, in Holy Communion
- Christ’s coming on the “Day of the Lord,” to which we say, “Even so, come Lord Jesus. Amen.”

Confessional Corner – The Second Article: Redemption (from Luther’s Small Catechism)

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, dead, and buried: He descended into hell, the third day He rose from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.”

What does this mean?

Answer: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, delivered me and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with silver and gold but with His holy and precious blood and with His innocent sufferings and death, in order that I may be His, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Sunday Mass. Color Blue/Purple. Sermon: “Thank the Lord.” Processional: **331**; Kyrie —1, **943**; Gloria: 946; Hymn of the Day: **357**; Recessional: **332**. Psalm **80:1-7** & **doxology** chanted responsively during the distribution. Post-Communion Canticle: **Nunc Dimittis**. Texts:

Second Sunday of Advent. Color Blue/Purple. Sermon: “This Is Elijah.” Processional: **348**; Kyrie —1, **943**; Gloria: 946; Hymn of the Day: **356**; Recessional: **358 stanzas 1-7**. Psalm **85** chanted responsively during the distribution. Post-Communion Canticle: **Nunc Dimittis**.

Nov. 29 2020	First S. in Advent	Is. 64:1–9	Psalm 80:1–7	1 Cor. 1:3–9	Mark 11:1–10 <i>or</i> Mark 13:24–37
Dec. 6	Second S. in Advent	Is. 40:1–11	Psalm 85	2 Peter 3:8–14	Mark 1:1–8

Catechesis. Sunday catechesis for all will take place from 0900 - 0945. We will continue with the 11th lesson in “Loving the Liturgy.”

Prayers for the saints in our midst. Sandi, a friend of the Drake family; praise to God for the mother of Jennifer Hass and Rev. Dr. Charles Cortright; Samantha’s successful surgery; Ken Adams.

Resources: SACRED MUSIC FOR ADVENT SEASON... “Savior of the Nations, Come,” “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry,” “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” You can listen to sacred music for the Advent season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, TuneIn, Amazon Echo, Google Home and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app. issuesetc.org/support/

Event! Advent Party at the Bombaro home Friday 18 Dec @ 5:30pm. If attending, please bring (1) a side dish or dessert; (2) a white elephant gift (under \$10) for each person playing. Holiday ham will be the main dish. There will be carol singing and merriment. No humbugs, please. Text Melinda with any questions: 619.651.5365.

An opportunity for the parish. Each Thanksgiving, Mission Central in Iowa raises significant funds for LCMS missionaries to keep them in their respective fields of service. Pastor Bombaro will speak on this opportunity for Blessed Sacrament on Sunday.

Gratefully yours in Christ Jesus,
Pastor John