

## **Fourth Sunday in Advent**

**December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

*"We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus"*

### PRELUDE MUSIC

### WELCOME and INVOCATION

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

P: Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's timing.

**C: We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.**

P: In Him our hearts rejoice,

**C: for we trust in His holy name.**

P: May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord,

**C: even as we put our hope in You. (Psalm 33.20-22)**

P: We now light all the Advent candles – the Hope, Peace, Joy and now the Love candle.



*After the candles are lighted, we speak together:*

**C: Jesus, You are the world's hope and answer to the brokenness of this world! We place our hope and trust in You! Amen!**

ADVENT OPENING HYMN: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (338)

### ANNO UNCEMENTS

### RECEIVING LUKE COLLINS INTO MEMBERSHIP (10:30)

### CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us now take a moment to confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Heavenly Father, I confess all my sins to You, the sins that I know of and I acknowledge that there are others that are unknown to me. Your Word teaches that I will be held accountable for my sins. But, Your Word also teaches me about Jesus and that He is the Savior of the world. Lord, I ask that You forgive me of my sins, that my sins not stay with me. "God, have mercy on me, a sinner" (Luke 18.13b).**

P: Friends of God, heaven rejoices when we acknowledge our sins for God desires to shower His mercy and love upon us. Know, therefore, that your sins, your known and unknown sins, are removed from you as far as the east is from the west (Psalm 103.12). The words I speak, I now speak

for God: You are forgiven of your sins! They are no longer with you!

**C: Amen! Thanks be to God!**

### ADVENT LITANY PRAYER

P: O Christ,

**C: In Your first Advent You fulfilled Your promise to come to Your people.**

P: O Christ,

**C: You came to save us from our sin. (Matthew 1.21)**

P: O Christ,

**C: You have promised to return and to liberate all of creation from the bondage to decay. (Romans 8.21)**

P: O Christ,

**C: We look forward to that day when You return!**

P: O Christ,

**C: May we not become weary as we wait for You!**

P: O Christ,

**C: May we be watchful and ready for Your return.**

P: O Christ,

**C: Come, Lord Jesus, come! Amen!**

### PRAYER FOR THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together:

**C: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

SOLO: "Breath of Heaven"

Soloist, Aly Eldridge

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### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (10:30)

### TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Today's Old Testament reading is **Isaiah 7:10–17**, where the Lord gives a sign to a fearful king—a promise that God is with His people, even when the future looks uncertain.

The Epistle reading is **Romans 1:1–7**, where Paul proclaims that the promises spoken beforehand through the prophets have now taken flesh in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The Gospel reading is **Matthew 1:18–25**, which tells how the ancient

promise of *Immanuel* is fulfilled as God comes to be with us through the birth of Jesus.

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

L: These are the Words of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed (Screens)

SERMON HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (357)

THE SERMON: Isaiah 7.10.-17

THE OFFERTORY and THANKOFFERING

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Congregational response to each petition is: ***Hear our prayer.***

AFFIRMATION OF HOPE

P: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, in  
Your holy Church forever and ever. Amen!

**C: CHRIST HAS COME! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST SHALL COME  
AGAIN!**

THE BENEDICTION

**C: Amen!**

CLOSING HYMN: "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" (348)

Pastor: We have gathered this morning to worship the Lord, to be renewed and strengthened in God's love and the forgiveness of sins. As we go, let us remember who we are and what we do:

**C: "We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to  
Jesus."**

Pastor: You are dearly loved and treasured by God, planted and growing in God's love. As God's beloved children, go in peace! Love one another! Be a blessing! Share the faith! Serve the Lord with gladness!

**C: Thanks be to God!**