



St. Peter Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod

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*The Spirit gives us peace that fills our hearts with hope
To give our sin-sick souls release and with our trials cope.*

P And a highway will be there;

C it will be called the Way of Holiness.

*P "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has told us about."*

**C So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the
Baby who was lying in the manger.**

*P Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as
clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the
Lamb*

C down the middle of the great street of the city.

*This life a journey is through valleys dark and gray,
But God walks with all who are His to help along the way.*

P Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,

C that the mountains would tremble before You!

*P While they were there, the time came for the Baby to be
born,*

C and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son.

P "Behold, I am coming soon!"

**C Blessed is he who keeps the words of the prophecy in this
book.**

*While in this world we wait for Christ again to come,
God grant us grace to celebrate until our labor's done.*

P The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a Son,

C and will call Him Immanuel.

*P When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning
what had been told them about this Child,*

Interviews with Isaiah

Advent, Mid-Week 1 • The Spirit

Opening Responsory ... St. Thomas

P Come, O house of Jacob,

C Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

P The glory of the Lord shone around them,

C and they were terrified.

P The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it,

C For the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.

*Come, walk into the light to meet our glorious King
To flee the darkness of the night and gladsome praises bring.*

P The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him—

C The Spirit of wisdom and understanding.

P Glory to God in the highest,

C and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests.

P The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come!"

C And let the one who hears say, "Come!"

C and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

P Those who are victorious will inherit all this,

C and I will be their God and they will be My children.

*The Child, God's only Son, brings heav'n's presence here
To make us with the Father one and His own children dear.*

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P Two candles are lit to remind us that we walk in the Spirit of the Lord.

C The Spirit of Jesus is wisdom and understanding.

P The Spirit of Jesus is counsel and might.

C The Spirit of Jesus is knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

P Two candles are lit to remind us that we walk in the Spirit of the Lord.

C Come, let us walk in the Spirit of the Lord.

Confession and Absolution

P Because of our sin-drenched and self-centered nature, we believe that we are wise and understanding. In fact, we are foolish and unsympathetic. Our sinfulness drives Your Spirit out of our lives and leaves us stranded in the filth of our corruption. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. In Your perfect and unselfish wisdom, we pray that You see fit to forgive us our sins. If this is Your confession, respond by saying, "I do so confess, and I ask for Your forgiveness."

C I do so confess and I ask for God's forgiveness.

P Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor." It is His perfect Spirit that washes you clean and grants you the wisdom to know and receive His forgiveness. By the grace of God and in His wisdom and understanding I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise ... Hark the Glad Sound

*Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let every heart prepare a throne
And every voice a song.*

*Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy beloved name.*

Prayer of the Day

P Lord Jesus Christ, Your Spirit is a Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and might. Send Your perfect Spirit to us and through us so that peace will prevail upon the earth, so that the wolf dwells with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and a little child shall lead them.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading ... Isaiah 11:1-10

*Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.*

Epistle Reading ... Romans 8:1-11

*The watchers on the mountain proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand.*

Gospel Reading ... Matthew 3:13-16

**The saints who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him their diadems of gold.**

**Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption that sets Your people free!**

**Isaiah sees the Spirit rest on the Chosen One.
His righteousness and wisdom shall make the kingdom come.
The wolf and lamb together, the leopard and the goat,
A little child shall lead them just as the prophet wrote.**

Sermon

Offering and Prayers

Each petition ends with this response:

P *O people of God,*

C **Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

Lord's Prayer and Benediction

Closing Hymn ... Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*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 every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*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.*