

1st Sunday of Advent

November 30th, 2025

Liturgy: "O" Antiphons

Organist: Lana Strike



O Wisdom | O King of Nations | O Root of Jesse | O Lord and Ruler | O Dayspring | O Key of David | O Emmanuel | O Wisdom | O
King of Nations | O Root of Jesse | O Lord and Ruler | O Dayspring | O Key of David | O Emmanuel | O Wisdom | O King of Nations
| O Root of Jesse | O Lord and Ruler | O Dayspring | O Key of David | O Emmanuel | O Wisdom | O King of Nations | O Root of Jesse



Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall
come to Thee, O Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O

ST. JOHN'S

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Introduction to our Advent Theme: The O Antiphons

The paraphrases of Holy Scripture known as The Great “O” Antiphons of Advent have been cherished for centuries by Christian worshippers as most expressive of the Church’s desire for the Savior. They are each awe-filled expressions of that Advent spirit that is focused on Christ’s coming—His historical coming on Christmas, His continued coming in the Means of Grace, and His second coming on Judgment Day. Each antiphon consists of a title given to Christ in the Old Testament, asking Him to come and fulfill some Scriptural promise or prophecy. They also are the basis of one of our greatest Advent hymns, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.”

✠ Opening Prayer – “O Wisdom” ✠

- P** O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #68

“The Advent of Our King”

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- P** As we wait for the second coming of Christ, the Wisdom of God and Key who opens heaven’s gates, let us prepare our hearts for His arrival by confessing our sins.
- G** **Almighty and merciful Father, we confess that we have sought knowledge apart from You, that we have heard Your commandments but disobeyed them, that our faith has been easily shaken, that we have closed our hearts to Your mercy, that we have walked in shadows of doubt and despair, that we follow the lead of the devil, and that we have forgotten about Your presence in our lives. Come to us, O LORD, forgive us for Jesus’ sake and restore us according to Your mercy.**
- P** Hear the good news of Advent hope: Jesus, the Wisdom of God, teaches us the way of truth. Jesus, our Lord, delivers us

from sin and death. Jesus, the Root of Jesse, deepens our trust. Jesus, the Key of David, opens to us the kingdom of grace. Jesus, the Dayspring, brings light to our darkness. Jesus, the King of the Nations, unites us in His peace. Jesus, Immanuel – God with us – forgives, renews, and restores.

Therefore, as a called servant of the Word, I proclaim to you: In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Response: “A Litany for Advent”

Tune of WS #789

C *Lord Jesus, come to us, we pray,
Bring us Your truth, Show us Your way,
As once the prophets did foretell,
Oh, come to us, Immanuel.*

*The universe is in our care,
Help us protect, help us to share,
Send us Your peace, Your glad Noel,
Oh, come to us, Immanuel.*

*Our world is torn in war and sin.
Our people hurt without, within.
Your healing love will make us well,
Oh, come to us, Immanuel.*

*Prepare our hearts, tell all the earth
That we may celebrate Your birth.
Oh, enter in our lives to dwell.
Oh, come to us Immanuel.*

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

P O Wisdom, eternal Word of God, guide our hearts and minds. Teach us to seek Your guidance and truth in every decision that we make and lead us in the paths of mercy and love. May Your counsel shape our lives today and always. **C Amen.**





Proverbs 8:12-31

"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and I find knowledge and discretion. ¹³

The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate. ¹⁴ I have counsel and sound wisdom; I have insight; I have strength. ¹⁵ By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just; ¹⁶ by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly. ¹⁷ I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. ¹⁸ Riches and honor are with me, enduring wealth and righteousness. ¹⁹ My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver. ²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice, ²¹ granting an inheritance to those who love me, and filling their treasuries. ²² "The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of old. ²³ Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. ²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. ²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth, ²⁶ before he had made the earth with its fields, or the first of the dust of the world. ²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, ²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, ²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, ³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man.



John 3:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.



1 Corinthians 1:24-30

But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the

wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

Response to the Word

TLH #70:1

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

G ♪ *Hosanna to the living Lord!
Hosanna to the Incarnate Word!
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King,
let earth, let heaven, hosanna sing.*

Confession of Faith

Explanation of the 2nd Article

G I BELIEVE...

that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Hymn: TLH #61

"Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"



Isaiah 11:2

And the Spirit of the LORD
shall rest upon him, the Spirit
of wisdom and
understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of
knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

The “O” Antiphons: O Wisdom

*“O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High,
Pervading and permeating all creation,
Mightily ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.”*

The Offertory

TLH #62

**☞ ♪ O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Embracing all things far and nigh:
In strength and beauty come and stay;
Teach us Your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Hymn: TLH #294

“O Word of God Incarnate”

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer ✠

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

G We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is truly good, right, and beneficial that we should, at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, everlasting God, through your Son Jesus Christ, who became Wisdom in our place and opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Order of Holy Communion



C: Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho-
san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord; Tru-ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Words of Institution *Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always!

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re-stored, Im-
part Your joy, our faith in-crease. Sus-
tain with Your mer-cy and grant us Your peace.

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, please speak with our Pastor to find out about communing with us in the future!

✠ The Distribution of the Lord's Supper ✠

Distribution Hymns:

WS #704; WS #702; TLH #65

After the distribution, we'll continue with the singing of the Nunc Dimittis:



C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G Amen!

Hymn: TLH #532

"Thy Way, Not Mine, O Lord"



Church Decorating – Just a reminder that this coming Sunday is the beginning of Advent, and, as is our custom, we will be decorating the sanctuary following Sunday's service.

Advent Continues – Our Advent Series will continue this Wednesday evening at **6:30 pm** as Pastor Joe Naumann visits to share our Advent hope in the antiphon "O King of Nations."

Election Meeting – The voting members of St. John's are invited and encouraged to attend our annual Election Meeting in the auditorium on Sunday, December 7, immediately after the service. Besides the Election of Officers,

the Agenda will include: appointing of communion assistants for 2026 and setting Pastor's housing allowance for income tax purposes. Please let Chairman Phil Strike know if there are any other agenda items to be included. The Chairman and Elders met as the Nominating Committee to prepare an initial slate of nominees for each office, which is included in the bulletin. Nominations will also be welcomed from the floor at the meeting. Please contact the Chairman or Elders if you have questions.

Christmas Cookie Exchange – Next Sunday, December 7th, during the men's voters meeting, the women are invited to join in a Christmas cookie exchange. If you wish to participate, bring 1-2 dozen cookies to exchange, plus a container to take home your goodies! Enjoy some warm tea and fellowship while you swap treats.

Advent VBS – Join us for advent Vacation Bible School on Tuesdays in December, the 2nd, 9th, and 16th, from 3:15-5:15 pm. Children in Preschool through 8th grade are invited for an afternoon of crafts, Bible stories, music and snacks. Please register on our church website. Volunteers are also being sought to help make this event a blessing for our students. If you can assist in any way, please contact Mary Albrecht at 605-839-9154 or speak with her in person.

Calendars – 2026 religious calendars are available now for a suggested donation of \$5 each. Please place your money in the basket on the table in the entry next to the calendars. Any extra money received will be given to our school. Please see Phil Strike with any questions.

Ushers	11/30	Trevor B, Tim Z, Josh E, Christian K, David R
	12/7	Kendall B, Larry B.
	12/14	Phil S, Nathan V, Anthony F, Daniel R.
Cleaning	This Week – Fogelman, Ahrens, Sullivan (wk. 3)	
	Up Next – The Voits	

Nomination Committee Proposal

Election Meeting December 7, 2025

(Nominations also welcomed from the floor.)

Office	Term	Current	Tenure	Nominees
Elder	3 yrs	Jim Kazemba*	20-25	Steve DeWall
		Regan Lueck	24-26	James Albrecht
		Brandt Wendland	25-27	
Trustee	3 yrs	Nathan Voit*	20-25	Josh Zuehlke
		Les Ruthenbeck III	24-26	Monte Rosen
		Duane Voit	25-27	
Chairman	1 yr	Phil Strike	23-25	Ron Strike
				Phil Strike
Secretary	1 yr	Christian Kazemba	25	Christian Kazemba
				Bruce Eigenberg
Treasurer	1 yr	Nathan Albrecht	23-25	David Schmidt
				Nathan Albrecht
Education	3 yrs	Rick Gustaf*	20-25	Nathan Voit
		Lloyd Kalfs	21-26	Jim Kazemba
		Steve Winters	22-27	
Finance	2 yrs	Larry Boernsen	24-25	Ron Strike
		David Schmidt	24-25	David Schmidt
		Ron Strike	24-25	Joey Jensen
		Joseph Albrecht	25-26	Rick Gustaf
		Lance Baumann	25-26	Mike Fogelman
		Don Lueck	25-26	Larry Boernsen
Cemetery	3 yrs	Steve DeWall*	20-25	Jim Sullivan
		Craig Ahrens	24-26	Allen Jensen
		Joe Liepold	22-27	

Name = present term is completed

*Six years completed or does not wish to hold the same office in the next term

** Appointed to fulfill another's term

"Only such members as have been voting members of the congregation for at least one year shall be eligible for election to a regular office in the congregation." (St. John's Constitution, Section 5.07)

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

December 1st – 6th, 2025

Mon Matthew 21:1-9 As we look forward to the Christ's humble coming in Bethlehem, we remember also His humble approach to Jerusalem where He will lay down His life for us sinners all.

Tues Romans 13:11-14 At Christmas we remember Jesus coming to earth to redeem us from sin. As the dawn of His second coming approaches, let us walk in His light, clothed with His righteousness.

Wed Jeremiah 33:14-18 The righteous Branch from David's line will fulfill the good promises of the Lord. He, the Lord our Righteousness, will reign forever, and the benefit to us will also be without end!

Thurs Psalm 143:1-6 David pleads for God's mercy as the enemy pursues his soul (v3). He calls not because he deserves God's help (v2), but because He remembers God's merciful works of long ago.

Fri Psalm 143:7-12 David needs the Lord's mercy for his very life, and wants to be taught the way he should go, as well as to be rescued from his enemies. "For I am your servant" (v12).

Sat Psalm 1 What a contrast there is between the Godly and the Ungodly! The Lord blesses the righteous with continuous life and fruit and prosperity in everything they do (v3). For this Christ came!

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