

St. Lucas Lutheran Church, Kewaskum Wisconsin
Advent Vespers November 30, 2022

Be Born In Us Today -- Bringing Renewal

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,
and hear our evening prayer and praise.

Hymn

CW 314



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav-ens wide; come down, come
2 O Morn - ing Star, O ra - diant Dawn, when will we
3 Sin's dread - ful doom up - on us lies; grim death looms
4 There shall we all our prais-es bring and sing to



down with might - y stride. Un - lock the gates, the
sing your morn - ing song? Come, Son of God! With -
fierce be - fore our eyes. Come lead us with your
you, our Sav - ior - King; there shall we laud you



doors break down; un - bar the way to heav-en's crown.
out your light we grope in dread and gloom of night.
might - y hand from ex - ile to our prom-ised land.
and a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Text: tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1909–1967, alt.; Friedrich von Spee, 1591–1635, abr.
Tune: Rheinfelsisch Deutsches Catholisches Gesangbuch, Augsburg, 1666
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Tune: Public domain

Reading

Ephesians 1:7–10

⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

We light one candle on the Advent wreath to celebrate the renewal of our lives through faith in Christ Jesus. The apostle Paul writes, “We were buried therefore with [Christ] by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You were born among us to bring us new life.

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2).

Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Renew our hearts and minds in the power of the Holy Spirit so that we might serve you by serving others.

Hymn

CW 333 st. 4



4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the lyrics: "We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!". The melody is simple and suitable for a congregational setting.

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893, abr., alt.
 Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

The Gosepl of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

CW 324



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel - come you a - right?
2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
3 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,
4 Sin's debt, that fear - ful bur - den, let not your souls dis - tress;
5 He comes to judge the na - tions, a ter - ror to his foes,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light.
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
who mourn o'er joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.
your guilt the Lord will par - don and cov - er by his grace.
a light of con - so - la - tion and bless - ed hope to those



O Je - sus, let your Word be a lamp to light my way,
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing that led you to em - brace
De - spair not; he is near you, he's stand - ing at the door
He comes, for you pro - cur - ing the peace of sin for - giv'n,
who love the Lord's ap - pear - ing. O glo - rious Sun, now come,



to show me how to please you, to guide me ev - 'ry day.
in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race!
who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.
his chil - dren thus se - cur - ing e - ter - nal life in heav'n.
send forth your beams most cheer - ing, and guide us safe - ly home.

Text: tr. composite; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, D. M. Luther's ... Geistliche Lieder, Berlin, 1653

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Isaiah 40:21–31

Be Born in Us Today – with Renewal

²¹Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood since the earth was founded?

²²He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.

He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.

²³He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.

²⁴No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.

²⁵“To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:
Who created all these?

He who brings out the starry host one by one
and calls forth each of them by name.

Because of his great power and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.

²⁷Why do you complain, Jacob?

Why do you say, Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD;
my cause is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Do you not know?

Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.

²⁹He gives strength to the weary

and increases the power of the weak.

³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary,
and young men stumble and fall;

³¹but those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

Stand

Lord, Have Mercy

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Prayer for Peace

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.
Amen.

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

CW93 6



1 Come, O long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set your peo - ple free;
2 Born your peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child and yet a king,



From our sins and fears re - lease us By your death on Cal - va - ry.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now your gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope to all the earth im - part,
By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to your glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Tune: ST. HILARY (87 87 D) Unknown.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Timothy Henning

Organist: Coralee Henning

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Evening (Vespers) from Christian Worship

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