



The image features a stylized illustration of four lit candles. From left to right, the candles are blue, blue, pink, and blue. Each candle has a yellow flame with a brown wick. The candles are set against a background of vertical purple lines. The entire scene is framed by a thin orange line at the top and bottom, with a solid purple band at the very top and bottom. The text 'Advent FESTIVAL' is centered over the candles.

# *Advent* FESTIVAL



# ***New Life Ev. Lutheran Church***

## ***Lake Zurich, IL***

*...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.*

*Pastor Andrew Bauer*  
*(847) 438-5018*

[www.newlife-wels.org](http://www.newlife-wels.org)

+++++

## **ADVENT FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

**December 3, 2023**

**9:30 AM**

### **AS WE GATHER**

In 1934, sixteen years after he had introduced to King's College, Cambridge, the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas Eve, the Dean, Eric Milner-White, composed a further service—a Procession with Carols upon Advent Sunday. His desire for more imaginative forms of worship appears in the preface he wrote to that service: In the old English liturgies, the Advent Offices made a preparation for the coming of our Lord to this earth far more vivid and eager than those of our present prayer book. So, an Advent carol service, if without precedent, is not without suitability, if it helps to express “the desire of all nations and ages.” The purpose of the service was “not to celebrate Christmas, but to expect it.”

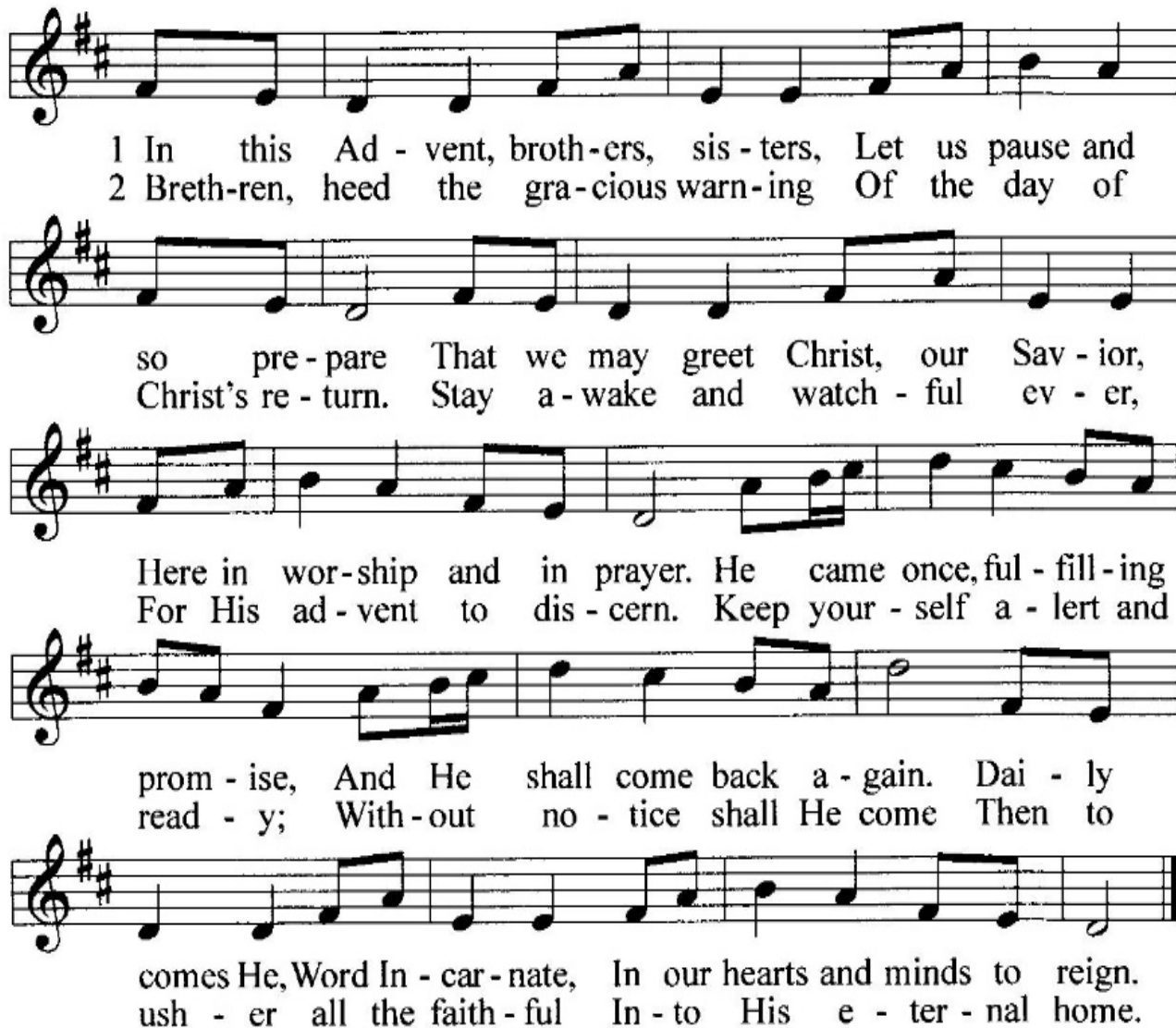
*Carols and music reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.*

**Pastor's Welcome**



*(The first candle on the Advent wreath is lit as the opening hymn is sung.)*

## **Opening Hymn: "In this Advent"**



1 In this Ad - vent, broth - ers, sis - ters, Let us pause and  
2 Breth - ren, heed the gra - cious warn - ing Of the day of  
so pre - pare That we may greet Christ, our Sav - ior,  
Christ's re - turn. Stay a - wake and watch - ful ev - er,  
Here in wor - ship and in prayer. He came once, ful - fill - ing  
For His ad - vent to dis - cern. Keep your - self a - lert and  
prom - ise, And He shall come back a - gain. Dai - ly  
read - y; With - out no - tice shall He come Then to  
comes He, Word In - car - nate, In our hearts and minds to reign.  
ush - er all the faith - ful In - to His e - ter - nal home.

## **Invocation**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

## **Opening Sentences** *(Matthew 24:42; Romans 13:11; Isaiah 2:4; Psalm 122:1)*

Pastor: Stay awake,

People: for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

Pastor: For salvation is nearer to us now

People: than when we first believed.



Pastor: They shall beat their swords into plowshares,

**People: and their spears into pruning hooks.**

Pastor: I was glad when they said to me,

**People: “Let us go to the house of the LORD!”**

### **Confession and Absolution** (*Romans 13:12; Isaiah 2:3*)

Pastor: Our Lord urges us to stay awake and watch for His return, when He will usher in the kingdom of God. Paul tells us to “cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.”

**People: In our fallen sinful condition, our thoughts, words, and deeds often reflect the fallen world around us. Heavenly Father, forgive us for Jesus’ sake, and by Your Holy Spirit turn our feet to walk in ways pleasing to You. Awaken our faith that we greet Jesus whenever He returns.**

Pastor: Our Lord’s first coming was to save us—to live and die in our place. When He returns, it will be to usher in the kingdom of God, in which He promised through Isaiah, “He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths.” As a called servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

### **Sermonette** (Pastor Bauer)

### **Introduction to the Season of Advent and the Lord’s Prayer**

Pastor: Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God’s loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against Him until the glorious redemption brought to us by His holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of His birth with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of His whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which He died, and especially for His Church in our country and in this city.



And because He particularly loves them, let us remember in His name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one forevermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ Himself has taught us, saying:

**People: 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.**

Pastor: The Almighty God bless us with His grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

**People: Amen.**

### **The First Lesson—Genesis 2:4-9,15-25** *The Lord creates Adam and Eve.* (Joe Berg)

<sup>4</sup> This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

<sup>5</sup> Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no one to work the ground, <sup>6</sup> but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

<sup>8</sup> Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. <sup>9</sup> The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

<sup>18</sup> The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."



<sup>19</sup> Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup> So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup> The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called 'woman,'  
for she was taken out of man."

<sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

<sup>25</sup> Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol: "Songs of Praise the Angels Sang" CW 222 vs. 1, 2, 4**

**Songs of praise the angels sang, Heav'n with alleluias rang,  
When creation was begun, When God spoke and it was done.**

**Songs of praise awoke the morn When the Prince of Peace was born.  
Songs of praise arose when He captive led captivity.**

**And shall man alone be still? Has he neither breath nor skill?  
No, the Church delights to raise Psalms and hymns and songs of praise.**



**The Second Lesson—Genesis 3:1-15** *Adam and Eve disobey God. In mercy God promises them a Savior, the seed of the woman.* (Toby James)

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

<sup>4</sup> "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup> "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

<sup>6</sup> When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

<sup>8</sup> Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

<sup>10</sup> He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

<sup>11</sup> And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

<sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this,

"Cursed are you above all livestock  
and all wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.



<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel."

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol: "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"** CW 28 vs. 1, 4, 5

**Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly kept His word  
And at last to us did send Christ, the sinner's help and friend.**

**Welcome, O my Savior, now! Joyful, Lord, to You I bow.  
Come into my heart, I pray; Oh, prepare Yourself a way.**

**Crush for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread,  
I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.**

**The Third Lesson—Isaiah 40:1-11** *God comforts His people and urges them to prepare for their redemption.* (Mike Spangle)

Comfort, comfort my people,  
says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and proclaim to her  
that her hard service has been completed,  
that her sin has been paid for,  
that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling:  
"In the wilderness prepare  
the way for the LORD;  
make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up,



every mountain and hill made low;  
the rough ground shall become level,  
the rugged places a plain.

<sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all people will see it together.

For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry out."

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

"All people are like grass,  
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

<sup>7</sup> The grass withers and the flowers fall,  
because the breath of the LORD blows on them.  
Surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup> The grass withers and the flowers fall,  
but the word of our God endures forever."

<sup>9</sup> You who bring good news to Zion,  
go up on a high mountain.

You who bring good news to Jerusalem,  
lift up your voice with a shout,  
lift it up, do not be afraid;  
say to the towns of Judah,  
"Here is your God!"

<sup>10</sup> See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power,  
and he rules with a mighty arm.

See, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense accompanies him.

<sup>11</sup> He tends his flock like a shepherd:

He gathers the lambs in his arms  
and carries them close to his heart;  
he gently leads those that have young

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



**Carol: “Comfort, Comfort All My People” CW 11 vs. 1, 3, 4**

**"Comfort, comfort all My people; Speak of peace," so says our God.  
"Comfort those who sit in darkness, Groaning from their sorrows' load.  
Speak to all Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell them that their sins I cover, That their warfare now is over."**

**John the Baptist's voice is crying In the desert far and near,  
Calling people to repentance For the kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.**

**Straighten out the crooked highway; Make the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble, Ready for His holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord Now o'er earth is spread abroad,  
And all flesh shall see the token That His word is never broken.**

**The Fourth Lesson—Jeremiah 23:5,6** *God will raise up for David a Righteous Branch.* (Ken Sarvady)

<sup>5</sup> "The days are coming," declares the LORD,  
"when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch,  
a King who will reign wisely  
and do what is just and right in the land.

<sup>6</sup> In his days Judah will be saved  
and Israel will live in safety.  
This is the name by which he will be called:  
The LORD Our Righteous Savior.

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Carol: “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied” LSB 342**

**What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;  
The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!**

**A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, A Branch from David's line,  
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God's design.**



**As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,  
That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.**

**Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;  
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—Come, open heaven's door.**

**The Fifth Lesson—Jeremiah 31:31-34** *God promises a new covenant to be written in the hearts of His people. (John Lester)*

<sup>31</sup> "The days are coming," declares the LORD,  
"when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they broke my covenant,  
though I was a husband to them,"  
declares the LORD.

<sup>33</sup> "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel  
after that time," declares the LORD.

"I will put my law in their minds  
and write it on their hearts.  
I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbor,  
or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,'  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest,"  
declares the LORD.

"For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more."

*After the reading*

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.



## **Carol: “Come, O Long Expected Jesus” CW 6**

**Come, O long-expected Jesus, Born to set Your people free;  
From our sins and fears release us By Your death on Calvary.  
Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope to all the earth impart,  
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.**

**Born Your people to deliver, Born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever, Now Your gracious kingdom bring.  
By Your Own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Your all-sufficient merit Raise us to Your glorious throne.**

**The Sixth Lesson—Isaiah 35:1-10** *God will prepare a way in the wilderness for His people.* (Brent Anderson)

The desert and the parched land will be glad;  
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, <sup>2</sup> it will burst into bloom;  
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;

they will see the glory of the LORD,  
the splendor of our God.

<sup>3</sup> Strengthen the feeble hands,  
steady the knees that give way;

<sup>4</sup> say to those with fearful hearts,  
“Be strong, do not fear;

your God will come,  
he will come with vengeance;

with divine retribution  
he will come to save you.”

<sup>5</sup> Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

<sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer,  
and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert.

<sup>7</sup> The burning sand will become a pool,  
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay,  
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.



<sup>8</sup> And a highway will be there;  
it will be called the Way of Holiness;  
it will be for those who walk on that Way.  
The unclean will not journey on it;  
wicked fools will not go about on it.  
<sup>9</sup> No lion will be there,  
nor any ravenous beast;  
they will not be found there.  
But only the redeemed will walk there,  
<sup>10</sup> and those the LORD has rescued will return.  
They will enter Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy will crown their heads.  
Gladness and joy will overtake them,  
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol: “There’s A Voice in the Wilderness Crying” CW 13**

**There’s a voice in the wilderness crying, A call from the ways untrod:  
Prepare in the desert a highway, A highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted, The lofty hills brought low;  
Make straight all the crooked places Where the Lord our God may go!**

**O Christians, you bring good tidings; Get up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people The coming of their king.  
Like the flow’rs of the field they perish; Like grass their works decay.  
The pow’r and pomp of nations Shall pass like a dream away;**

**But the Word of our God is eternal; The arm of the Lord is strong.  
He stands in the midst of the nations, And He shall right the wrong.  
He shall feed His flock like a shepherd, The lambs shall gently hold,  
To pastures of peace shall lead them, And bring them safe to His fold.**



**The Seventh Lesson—Isaiah 7:10-14** *The Lord promises that a Son will be conceived and His name will be Emmanuel.* (Ken Sarvady)

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup> "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

<sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you<sup>u</sup> a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Carol: "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel" CW 23**

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to You, O Israel!

Oh, come, O Root of Jesse, free Your own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Your people save, And bring them vict'ry o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to You, O Israel!

Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to You, O Israel!

Oh, come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home.  
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to You, O Israel!



**The Eighth Lesson—Micah 5:2-4** *The One who will be ruler over Israel will be born in Bethlehem. (John Lester)*

<sup>2</sup> “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
out of you will come for me  
one who will be ruler over Israel,  
whose origins are from of old,  
from ancient times.”

<sup>3</sup> Therefore Israel will be abandoned  
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,  
and the rest of his brothers return  
to join the Israelites.

<sup>4</sup> He will stand and shepherd his flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they will live securely, for then his greatness  
will reach to the ends of the earth.

*After the reading*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Carol: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”** CW 65 vs. 1, 4

**O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep And dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears Of all the years Are met in Thee tonight.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin And enter in; Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, Abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!**



**The Ninth Lesson—Isaiah 11:1-9** *The Branch of Jesse shall come with righteousness to save.* (Brent Anderson)

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup> The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

<sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.  
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

<sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy,  
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.  
He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;  
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt  
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

<sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the leopard will lie down with the goat,  
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;  
and a little child will lead them.

<sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear,  
their young will lie down together,  
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the cobra's den,  
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

<sup>9</sup> They will neither harm nor destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

*After the reading:*

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



**Carol:** “Behold a Branch is Growing” CW 47, vs. 1, 4, 5

**Behold, a Branch is growing Of loveliest form and grace,  
As prophets sang, foreknowing; It springs from Jesse's race  
And bears one little flow'r In midst of coldest winter,  
At deepest midnight hour.**

**This flow'r, so small and tender, With fragrance fills the air;  
His brightness ends the darkness That kept the earth in fear.  
True God and yet true man, He came to save His people  
From earth's dark night of sin.**

**O Savior, Child of Mary, Who felt our human woes,  
O Savior, King of glory, Who conquered all our foes,  
Bring us at last, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven  
And to the endless day.**

**Offering**

The ushers will gather the offering which will then be placed on the Lord's Altar. Offerings can also be given electronically by using your smart phone and the QR code which takes you to the donation part of New Life's website.



**Advent Greeting** *(Passing of the peace of Christ.)*

*Greet one another with the Advent greeting, “The peace of Christ be with you this Advent Season!” or another appropriate expression of peace.*

**Pastor:** “The peace of Christ be with you this Advent Season!”

**People:** “The peace of Christ be with you and with my brothers and sisters in Christ this Advent Season!”

**Blessing**

**Pastor:** May Christ, who by His incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with His joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

**People:** Amen.



## Dismissal

Pastor: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol:** “**My Soul in Stillness Waits**” CWS 325 (In singing this hauntingly beautiful Advent Carol, please follow the lead of the pastor.)

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and haunting, with a mix of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some lines indented to match the phrasing of the music. The score includes a refrain at the beginning and end, and four verses of text in the middle.

*Refrain*

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of glo - ry,  
2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our spir - its;  
3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,  
4 O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our pil-grim-age;

your ra-diance shines in all who look to you; come, light the  
our thirst-y hearts are yearn-ing for your Word; come, make us  
and in your ad - vent draw us all to you, our hope re -  
we - ev - er seek, yet un - ful-filled re - main; o - pen to

*Refrain*

hearts of all in dark and shad-ow.  
whole, be com-fort to our hearts.  
born in dy - ing and in ris - ing.  
us the path-way of your peace.



Our Father's Business in the Coming Week
--

Cleaning this Week: Dressel

**Today** – Advent Festival Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 9:30 AM

No Sunday School or Adult Bible Class today

10:45 Family Advent Craft in the Fellowship Hall at 10:45 AM

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

**Monday** – Circuit Meeting in Waukegan at 9:30 AM

Church Council at 7:00 PM

**Thursday** – Green Team at 6:30 PM

**Friday** – Men's Bible Class at 11:30 AM

**Sunday** – Second Sunday in Advent Communion Service at 9:30 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible class at 10:45 AM

Confirmation Class at 6:00 PM

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

There's been a change made to the ministry plan for December. Originally, the children's Christmas service was scheduled for December 24 during the morning service. Instead, December 24 in the morning will observe the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. The kids service will be in the evening at 6:30 PM and the Christmas Day service will be at 10:30 AM on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **AVENT CALENDARS**

There's a table near the New Life Café with Advent calendars you can choose from to help you observe the Advent season.

## **COOKIE SALE RESULTS**

The Branch Connection partnered with the Students for Life from Shoreland Lutheran High School to raise money for the Christian Life and Resources Centers in Mundelein and West Allis Wisconsin. We sold homemade cookies at the Shoreland Craft Fair and raised over \$1,600 to split between the two centers. Thank you to all who baked and helped with the sale.

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

As of Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> we have received \$84,393 in offerings for the current fiscal year, which is \$8,172 behind budget, an improvement of \$19 versus the previous week.

## **BRANCH CONNECTION CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Branch Connection Christmas party will be held on Tuesday, December 12 starting at 6:00 PM. The party will be held at Susan Sarvady's house, located at 865 Broadway in Lake Zurich.