

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP
December 6, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Please follow the ushers' direction on seating. We will maintain at least 6 feet between individuals unless you come as a family who live together.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Comfort, Comfort, Now My People" – Michael Burkhardt

P. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

CONFESSION:

C. Almighty God, I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I have sinned by what I have done and what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. Forgive me. Renew me. Lead me. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who suffered for us all and was raised from the dead, that first Easter. Amen.

P. It is always my honor and privilege to announce that God has freely forgiven you and me. We stand here, trusting, by God's grace alone. We stand here as free men and women, boys and girls. May the wind of Pentecost move our hearts and our hands.

C. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"



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



from our fears and sins re-lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for-ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 By thine 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 thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

APOSTOLIC GREETING:

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord of time and eternity, today is the first day of the rest of our lives. Help us to take hold of this day in your name and by your grace. Stir up in us, the desire for a new start. Amen.

BIBLE READINGS

SERMON: “Back to The Beginning”

Pastor Larry Isbell

HYMN OF THE DAY: “All Earth is Hopeful”

1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
 “A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el”; she con -
 This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
 ceived him, “God with us,” our broth - er, whose birth re -
 world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
 stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.

Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

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APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the dead,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(At the end of each petition, the leader will say "Lord, in your mercy." Feel free to respond with "Hear our prayer.")

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION:

P. Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Fling Wide the Door" (Verses 1 & 4)



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943
 Music: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR, J. A. Freylinghausen, *Geistreiches Gesangbuch*, 1704
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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DISMISSAL:

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
 C. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "Fling Wide the Door" – Max Reger

*(Please exit row by row, beginning with the back.
 Talk to others from a distance in the parking lot.)*

Today's altar flowers are given by Mark & Linda Pillar in honor of their wedding anniversary, and by Pat McChesney in honor of her husband Dick's birthday.