



# Come, Lord Jesus! – As Immanuel

## December 18, 2022

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Hymns 313 – 326 – 328 – 358

### SERVICE of the WORD

**OPENING HYMN**      *Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes* | **313 Christian Worship**

[*M – Minister*    **C – Congregation** | *Gathered today, please stand as you are able; all rise in spirit.*]

*STAND*

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

M: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

<sup>10</sup>The LORD spoke to Ahaz again. He said, <sup>11</sup>“Ask for a sign from the LORD your God. Ask for it either in the depths below or in the heights above.”

<sup>12</sup>But Ahaz responded, “I will not ask. I will not test the LORD.”

<sup>13</sup>So Isaiah said:

Listen now, you house of David. Is it not enough for you to test the patience of men? Will you test the patience of my God as well? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give a sign for all of you.<sup>[a]</sup> Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and name him Immanuel.<sup>[b]</sup>

**PSALM 2***Refrain*

Great are the works of the Lord. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le-



lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

*Psalm tone*

Why do the nations conspire\* and the peoples plot in vain?  
The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers  
gather together against the LORD\* and against his Anointed One.

**Refrain**

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;\* the Lord scoffs at them.  
Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,\*  
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:\* He said to me, “You are my Son;  
today I have become your Father.”

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Refrain**

## SECOND LESSON

Romans 1:1-7 EHV

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which he promised in advance through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures. 3 This gospel is about his Son—who in the flesh<sup>[a]</sup> was born a descendant of David, 4 who in the spirit<sup>[a]</sup> of holiness was declared to be God’s powerful Son by his resurrection from the dead—Jesus Christ, our Lord. 5 Through him we received grace and the call to be an apostle on behalf of his name, to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, 6 including you, who were called by Jesus Christ.

7 To all those loved by God who are in Rome, called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## VERSE OF THE DAY | GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 1:23 NIV

M: *Alleluia.* “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel.” *Alleluia.*



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**STAND**

## THE GOSPEL

**Matthew 1:18-25** EHV

**18** This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother, Mary, was pledged in marriage<sup>[a]</sup> to Joseph. Before they came together, she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. **19** Joseph, her husband, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her. So he decided to divorce her privately. **20** But as he was considering these things, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,<sup>[b]</sup> because he will save his people from their sins."

**22** All this happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: **23** "Look, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son. And they will name him Immanuel,"<sup>[c]</sup> which means, "God with us."

**24** When Joseph woke up from his sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him. He took Mary home as his wife, **25** but he was not intimate with her until she gave birth to her firstborn son.<sup>[d]</sup> And he named him Jesus.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## BE SEATED

## SERMON HYMN

*O Jesus, Grant Me Hope and Comfort* | **CW 326**

## SERMON THEME

**"Anything New Under the Son?"**

**Is 43:16-21** EHV

- 16** This is what the LORD says,  
who makes a road through the sea  
and a path through mighty waters,  
**17** who brings out the chariot and the horses,  
the army and the strong warrior.  
They will all lie down together.  
They will not get up.  
They are extinguished.  
Like a wick they go out.  
**18** Do not remember the former<sup>[a]</sup> things.  
Do not keep thinking about ancient things.

- 19** Watch, I am about to do a new thing.  
Now it will spring up. Don't you know about it?  
Indeed I will make a road in the wilderness.  
In the wasteland I will make rivers.
- 20** The wild animals, the jackals and ostriches, will honor me,  
because I am providing water in the wilderness,  
rivers in a parched wasteland,  
water for my chosen people to drink.
- 21** This people that I formed for myself will declare my praise.

**STAND**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
Begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the  
Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom  
will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
Who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
Who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

**C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

**C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

## THE OFFERING

**Please fill out a Connection Card as the offering is brought forward to the altar. At this time Colleen Mitchell will sing "The First Song of Isaiah."**

*Members of Living Savior support the ministry of sharing the good news of Jesus through their offerings. Guests may choose to give back to the Lord at Living Savior, through their own congregation, or in other ways that reflect a thankful heart. We are glad to share our joy and hope with you!*

*Stand*

The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

 **Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



## 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.**

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out 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.

**C: Amen.**

 **O Christ, Lamb of God**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.**

**Amen.**

## Distribution

*The Lord's Supper is a beautiful expression of unity – with our Lord, and among members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) and Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) who are in fellowship with each other. If you are not yet a confirmed member of a WELS or ELS church, we would love to have you join us in the future **after** sharing what we believe and teach at Living Savior. Please speak with the pastor about Bible 101 classes offered.*

## HYMN

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came | CW 328*

*Stand*

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



**BE SEATED**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Of the Father's Love Begotten* | **CW 358**

**Attendance Last Week**

Sun, Dec 11 – 10:30am **33**

Kalispell - Sun, Dec 11- 4:00pm **9**

**Cleaning**

**Altar**

Pastor and Jean Persons

Lynn Bernthal

## **Welcome to Living Savior!**

- Restrooms are located to the right as you leave the sanctuary. There are also restrooms in the NW corner of the fellowship area.
- Please help us be a friendly church by filling out the Connection Card during the service and placing it in the offering plate.
- Would you like to know more about Jesus, the basic teachings of what it means to be a Christian, or the Bible? Please mark the box on the Connection Card or email Pastor Persons for more information: persons@1791.com

Church Office: (406) 345-7049 pastor@livingsaviormissoula.com

Vacancy Pastor Steve Persons: (507) 340-6710 persons@1791.com

Preschool Director April Best: (406) 345-7707 aprilbest85@yahoo.com

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## NEWS AND NOTES

Today: No Family Bible Hour; fellowship and prep for Preschool Christmas Program

12 Noon – Preschool Christmas Program (10-15 minutes)

Monday: 10:00am – Lizzie R Confirmation Class, Alberton

Wednesday: 11:00am – David W Confirmation Class

1:30pm – Caroling at Hamilton Assisted Living

Thursday: Watch for other caroling scheduled

Saturday: 7:00pm – CHRISTMAS EVE – Candlelight Service

Next Sunday: 10:00am – CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION SERVICE

No Family Bible Hour

Sun, January 1: 10:00am – Worship with Holy Communion

No Family Bible Hour

Wed, January 4: Bible Study Resumes, 6:30pm – “Bible Basics, As Expounded and Explained with the Lutheran Confessions.”

**NOTE:** The next call meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 6:30pm. All members are welcome to attend; the voters will then select the pastor to call.

### Upcoming:

January 29, 2023 – David Wiseley is planning to confirm his Christian faith.

February 5, 2023 – Pastor Steve and Jean will have their last worship service with Holy Communion at Living Savior.

February 12, 2023 – Pastor Mark will serve as the next vacancy pastor.

### Prayers: Our prayers rise to God on behalf of -

Brenda Binney, who has experienced a fall on the ice (aches and pains).

April Best’s father, who is experiencing health difficulties.

Families that are going through emotional and spiritual difficulties.