



Concordia Lutheran Church

ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS 2

"The Lord Sets Up His Tent Among Us"

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

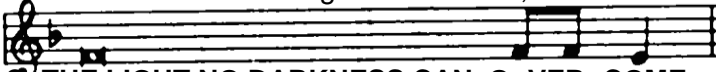
ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS 2

We often imagine that God's presence is made known through our feelings, but God has a history of showing His presence in more concrete ways. Throughout Scripture, He attaches Himself to places like Sinai or the tabernacle or the temple or the flesh and blood of His only-begotten Son.

Tonight, we recall how God manifested His presence to His people in the mystery of the cloud and thereby assured them that He was with them and would fulfill His promise never to abandon them. Advent reminds us that at many times and in many ways, God spoke to His people of old, but now, He has spoken through His Son. In Christ, God tabernacles with us and continues to deliver to us the fruits of His saving work on the cross.

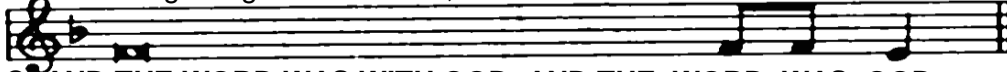
Evening Service of Light

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



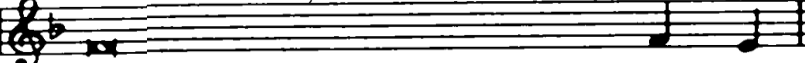
C: THE LIGHT NO DARKNESS CAN O- VER- COME

P: In the beginning was the Word,



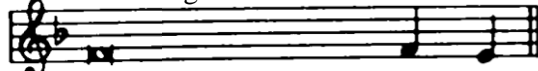
C: AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD.

P: In the Word was life;



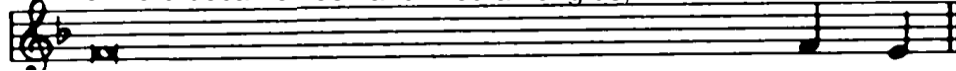
C: AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF ALL PEO - PLE.

P: Let Your Light scatter our dark-ness.



C: AND ILLUMINE YOUR CHURCH.

P: The Word became flesh and lived among us,



C: WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH

Phos Hilaron - Hymn of Light

Jesus, joyous light of glory,
Holy and blest,
Son of the immortal Father,
Highest and best:
Now while day to night surrenders,
In the sunset's fading splendor,
Songs of praise to You we render—
Lord, be our rest.

Tune Maroon Hymnal #922

Christ, of all life's good the Giver,
With one accord
You are worthy, now and ever
To be adored;
So the world its glory bringing
Joins celestial voices ringing:
Father, Son, and Spirit singing—
"One holy Lord!"

Thanksgiving For Light

P: (Sung) Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **AMEN (SUNG)**

Psalm 141

1. LORD, LET MY PRAYER LIKE INCENSE RISE,
AND WHEN I LIFT MY HANDS TO THEE,
AS ON THE EVENING SACRIFICE
LOOK DOWN FROM HEAV'N WELL-PLEASED ON ME.
2. SET NOW A WATCH TO KEEP MY TONGUE,
LET NOT MY HEART TO SIN INCLINE;
SAVE ME FROM THOSE WHO PRACTICE WRONG,
LET ME NOT SHARE THEIR MIRTH AND WINE.

Tune Maroon Hymnal # 615

3. AND LORD REDEEM ME FROM THE SNARES
WITH WHICH THE WORLD SURROUNDS MY FEET,
ITS RICHES, VANITIES, AND CARES,
ITS LOVE, ITS HATRED, ITS DECEIT.
4. TO GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON,
AND GOD THE SPIRIT, THREE IN ONE,
SHALL GLORY, PRAISE, AND HONOR BE
NOW AND THROUGHOUT ETERNITY.

Prayer

- P: O Holy Wisdom and Holy Word of God, by whom the Creator governs all creation with Almighty, yet Fatherly care.
- C: **Come, and show Your holy people the way to salvation.**
- P: O Savior of ancient Israel, who revealed Yourself to Moses in the burning bush, and gave Your holy Law on Mt. Sinai to Your covenant nation.
- C: **Come down O Redeemer, and stretch out Your mighty hand to set us free from sin, death and the devil. Grant this O Jesus, Messiah and Christ, even as you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God. Amen**

(please be seated)

HYMN

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

Maroon Hymnal # 347

Old Covenant Lesson -

Exodus 40:17–21, 34–38

A reading from Exodus, the fortieth chapter.

In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. And he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses. . . .

Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 105:1–11, 39–42

- L: He is the LORD our God;
His judgments are in all the earth.
- C: **He remembers His covenant forever,
the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.**
- L: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;
make known His deeds among the peoples!
- C: **Sing to Him, sing praises to Him;
tell of all His wondrous works!**
- L: Glory in His holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!
- C: **Seek the LORD and His strength;
seek His presence continually!**
- L: Remember the wondrous works that He has done,
His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,
- C: **O offspring of Abraham, His servant,
children of Jacob, His chosen ones!**
- L: He is the LORD our God;
His judgments are in all the earth.
- C: **He remembers His covenant forever,
the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations,**
- L: the covenant that He made with Abraham,
His sworn promise to Isaac,
- C: **which He confirmed to Jacob as a statute,
to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying,**
- L: “To you I will give the land of Canaan
as your portion for an inheritance.”
- C: **He spread a cloud for a covering,
and fire to give light by night.**

L: They asked, and He brought quail,
and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.
C: **He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
it flowed through the desert like a river.**

L: For He remembered His holy promise,
and Abraham, His servant.
C: **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.**

**He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth.
He remembers His covenant forever,
the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.**

New Covenant Lesson

John 1:14–18

A reading from John, the first chapter.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about Him, and cried out, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.’”) And from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, He has made Him known.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory For Advent in Catechesis

The Second Article

C: **And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**
L: What does this mean?

C: 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, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

HOMILY - THE LORD SETS UP HIS TENT AMONG US

Offering

Advent Offertory - “The Advent of Our King”

Maroon Hymnal # 331

(Please stand for last verse as you are able)

Offertory Prayer

P: Lamb of God, You once came to rid the world of sin;

C: Cleanse us now from every stain of sin.

P: Lord, you came to save Your fallen creation;

C: Come with Your salvation power, so those You redeem shall be released from the fear of death and the evil one.

P: We have come to know You in faith;

C: May we have unending joy when You come again in glory. Grant this even as you live and reign with Father and the Holy Spirit, and have taught us to always pray.....

Lord’s Prayer

Order of Holy Communion

Words of Institution

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: **Amen.**

The Agnus Dei

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis

The Collect for Peace

P: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C: **Even unto life everlasting.**

P: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: **To honor his gracious Name, at the rising of the sun.**

P: To sing praises to the most high God all day long.

C: **And rest in His mercy at the close of the day.**

P: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus fill you with you with every spiritual blessing so you may live in faith, fear, hope and wonder, now and forever.

C: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Unto life everlasting. Amen.**

HYMN

"Arise O Christian People"

Maroon Hymnal # 354