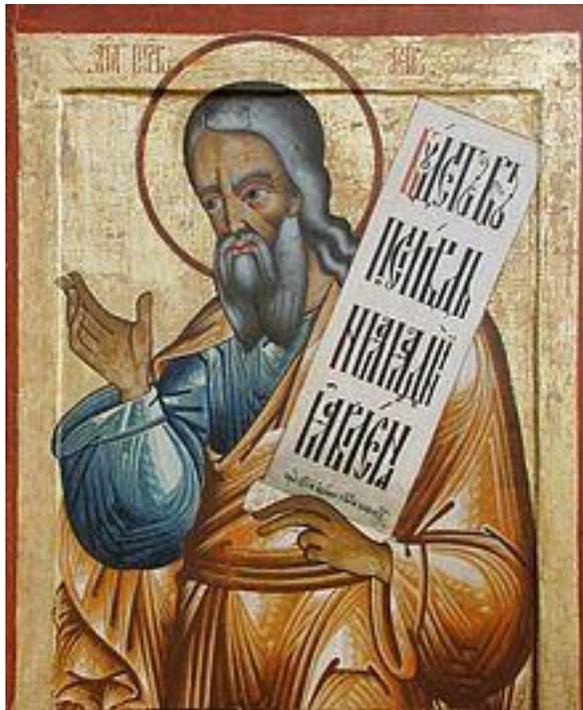


**Wednesday, December 5, 2018—7:00 PM**

**Advent 1 Midweek**

**Advent Messages From Isaiah 40**



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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

**EVENING PRAYER**

*Christian Worship p. 52*

**HYMN 11 Comfort, Comfort All My People**

1 "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."

2 All their sins our God will pardon,  
Blotting out each dark misdeed;  
All that well deserve his anger  
He no more will see or heed.  
They have suffered many a day;

Now their griefs have passed away.  
God will change their aching sadness  
Into ever-springing gladness.

3 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.

4 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.

### INVOCATION (52-53)



M: O Lord, o - pen my lips.



C: And my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



M: Has - ten to save me, O God.



C: O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.



M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

**M:** Lord God, you have brought us safely to this hour of evening prayer. We thank you for providing all that we need for body and life. Bless us who have gathered in your name. Forgive our sins. Speak to our hearts. Dispel our sorrows with the comfort of your Word, and receive our hymns of thanks and praise, through Jesus Christ, our living Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU (55)

### LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

*Psalm 141*



C: Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing



up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I



call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I



cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

## PSALM 118 (CW page 108)

## Psalm 118

*Refrain*

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re -  
joice and be glad! This is the day the  
Lord has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

*Psalm tone*

The LORD is my strength and my song;\*  
he has become my salvation.

The LORD's right hand is lifted high;\*  
the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!

I will not die but live,\*  
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.

### *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you answered me;\*  
you have become my salvation.

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;\*  
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;\*  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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*

## PSALM PRAYER

**M:** Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

## LESSONS:

### Colossians 3:15-17

<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## Mark 1:1-8

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news<sup>[a]</sup> of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.<sup>[b]</sup>

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,<sup>[c]</sup>

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,<sup>[d]</sup>  
who will prepare your way;

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared<sup>[e]</sup> in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with<sup>[f]</sup> water; but he will baptize you with<sup>[g]</sup> the Holy Spirit.”

## SEASONAL RESPONSE

**C:** The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out:  
Come, Lord Jesus, come.

## HYMN 12 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

1. Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long;  
Let every heart prepare a throne  
And every voice a song.

2. He comes the prisoners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.

3. He comes from thickest films of vice  
To clear the mental ray  
And on the eyeballs of the blind  
To pour celestial day.

4. He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.

5. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim

And heaven's eternal arches ring  
With Thy beloved name.

## **SERMON: ISAIAH 40:1-8 “The Promised Messiah is at Hand”**

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<sup>[a]</sup>;  
make straight in the desert  
a highway for our God.<sup>[a]</sup>”

<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.”

## **SONG OF MARY (57)**

SONG OF MARY  
*Magnificat*



C: My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord; my spir-it re-



joic - es in God my Sav - ior, for he has looked with fa - vor



on his low - ly ser - vant. From this day all gen - er - a - tions



will call me bless - ed. The Al - might - y has done great



things for me, and ho - ly is his name. He has mer - cy on



those who fear him in ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion.



He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the



proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y



from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.



He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich



he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the



help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his



prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,



to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

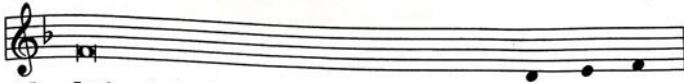
## OFFERING

### LORD, HAVE MERCY (59-60)

*The following prayer or other prayers may be used concluding with the LORD'S PRAYER and the PRAYER FOR PEACE.*

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*



M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

**M:** For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



**C:** Thanks be to God.

**M:** In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



**C:** A - men.

### LORD'S PRAYER

<p><b>C:</b> 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.</p>	<p><i>or</i></p>	<p>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.</p>
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### PRAYER FOR PEACE

**M:** 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.

## CLOSING HYMN: 6 Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

1 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.

2 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.

*Thank you David Stansfield for the musical accompaniment.*

*Thank you, usher volunteers.*

*Thank you all who provided the meal for tonight. – DeLyn Wagenknecht and Christine Vandiver and any others who were not on the sign-up list.*