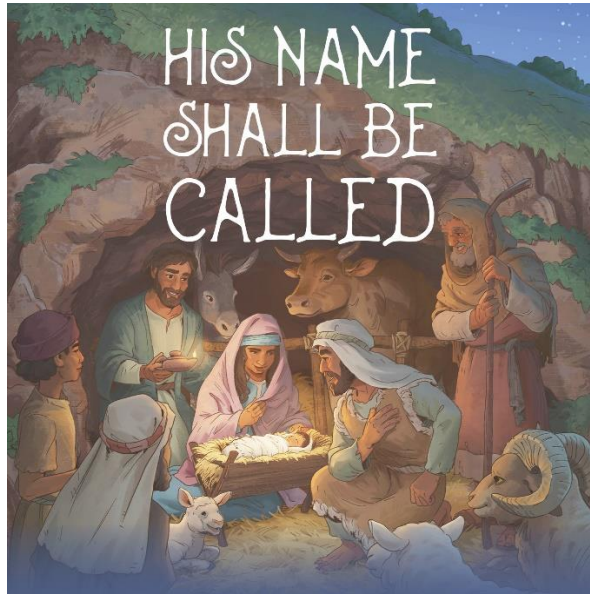


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



Advent Vespers

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

12:00 & 7:00 p.m.

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God’s Son, who was given the name *Jesus*—a Hebrew name that means “God saves.” However, in addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles that describe something about His person or work. We will examine the four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6—Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace—and will study how each of these titles describes something about *who* Jesus is and *what* He did for our salvation.

Today we consider how God rescues us from the cunning counsel of the devil and blesses us with the wonderful counsel of His Son, whose Word of truth sets us free from sin and its damning deception. Jesus is given the title Wonderful Counselor because His Word rescues us from the lies of the devil and our own self-deception and leads us into God’s wisdom, which results in our salvation.

Rev. Eric J. Edwards ✠ Rev. Christopher Beck ✠ Rev. Liwei Sui

2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN ✠ 812-332-1668 ✠ office@faithbtown.org

HYMN – LSB 357 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1 & 2)



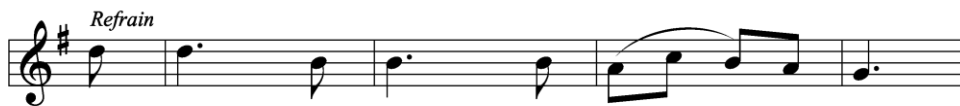
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.



Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

OPENING VERSICLES

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.

- 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.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

✠ ✠ ✠ PSALMODY ✠ ✠ ✠

PSALM – Psalm 119:129-136; antiphon: v. 129

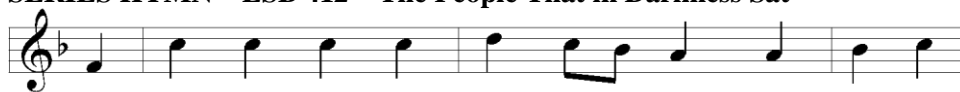
The congregation sings all.



Your testimonies are | wonderful;*
 therefore my soul | keeps them.
The unfolding of Your | words gives light;*
 it imparts understanding to the | simple.
I open my | mouth and pant,*
 because I long for Your com- | mandments.
Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
 as is Your way with those who | love Your name.
Keep steady my steps according to Your | promise,*
 and let no iniquity get dominion | over me.
Redeem me from man's op- | pression,*
 that I may keep Your | precepts.
Make Your face shine upon Your | servant,*
 and teach me Your | statutes.

My eyes shed | streams of tears,*
 because people do not | keep Your law.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Your testimonies are | wonderful;*
 therefore my soul | keeps them.

SERIES HYMN – LSB 412 – The People That in Darkness Sat



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious
 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring
 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In
 na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their
 Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All
 last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
 har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
 God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

5 His righteous government and pow'r
 Shall over all extend;
 On judgment and on justice based,
 His reign shall have no end,
 His reign shall have no end.

△ 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
 And make us Thine alone,
 Who with the Father ever art
 And Holy Spirit, one,
 And Holy Spirit, one.

Text and tune: Public domain



✠ ✠ ✠ READINGS ✠ ✠ ✠

FIRST READING – *Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7*

P A reading from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and His name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the increase of His government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over His kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING – *Romans 11:32-36*

P A reading from Romans, the eleventh chapter.

³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that He may have mercy on all.

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been His counselor?”

³⁵“Or who has given a gift to Him
that he might be repaid?”

³⁶For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

THIRD READING – *Matthew 7:24-29*

P A reading from Matthew, the seventh chapter.

²⁴“Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

²⁸And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹for He was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT

L Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

C This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

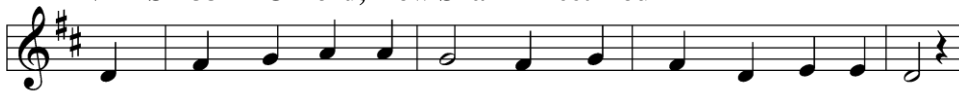
L In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

C This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

HYMN – LSB 334 – O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?
2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;
3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.
4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!
And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast
My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new
A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.
And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.
That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.
In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
The peace of sin forgiv'n,
His children thus securing
Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
And blessèd hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
And guide us safely home.

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7pm – CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON – *Wonderful Counselor*

✠ ✠ ✠ CANTICLE ✠ ✠ ✠

ANTIPHON

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

MAGNIFICAT – LSB 934



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
 those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
 leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
 tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
 el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

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OFFERING



✠ ✠ ✠ PRAYER ✠ ✠ ✠

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

COLLECTS

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
C And let my cry come to You.
(after each collect)
L ... one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

- L** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C Amen.

HYMN – LSB 338 – 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.

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SILENT PRAYER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acknowledgments

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Advent & Christmas 2024

Wednesdays – December 4, 11, 18
Midweek Advent Fellowship & Worship:
12 Noon **Worship** · 12:30pm Meal
5:45pm Meal · 6:45pm Carols · 7pm* **Worship**

Wednesday, December 11 – 11:45am
Preschool Christmas Program *Preview*

Thursday, December 12 – 11:30am
Preschool Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15 – 10:30am*
Living Nativity

Christmas Eve – 5pm* & 7pm
Candlelight Worship

Christmas Day – 10am*
Worship with Holy Communion

New Year's Eve – 5pm*
Worship with Holy Communion

* Service will also be **livestreamed** on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) (FaithBtownLCMS)
Follow the bulletin available on our [website](#).