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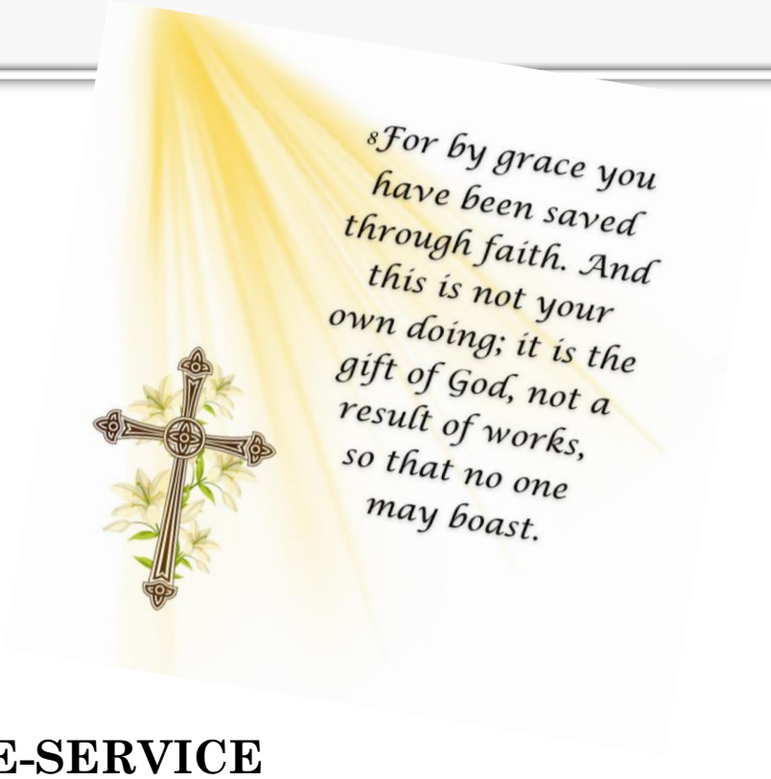
1st Sunday of Advent

"The Sheer Brilliancy Of His Grace"

November 29, 2026

Creative Worship



PRE-SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVANT PROCESSIONAL

As We Gather

The First Sunday in Advent begins what has historically been known in the church as Adventtide. The word *tide* originally meant "time" in Old English. It indicated a special season of reflection and of action set apart for a distinct purpose. Through the words of the hymn "Arise, O Christian People," we pray to our coming King: "Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; turn not from me aside and help me to receive You this blessed Adventtide" (*LSB* 354:4). Whatever may happen in the

days ahead, we can prepare our hearts and lives while keeping our focus on the Advent of our King, expectantly awaiting the tidings of great joy that announce His wondrous birth!

PREPARATION

Hymn: 331 The Advent of Our King

1 The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

2 The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

3 O Zion's daughter, rise
To meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

4 As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again
And His true members all unite
With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Text: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 25:1, 3–4, 14; Zechariah 9:9b

P To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

C **Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

P Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

C **The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them His covenant.**
Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

Confession and Absolution

P O God our Father, since You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son, we confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.

C **Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.**

P Forgive us the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibility

in Your service, and our imperfect stewardship of Your gifts.

C Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

P Forgive us that so little of Your love has reached others through us, that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

C Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

P Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

C Amen.

WORD

Antiphon *LSB 357*

P O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people:

C **Come and save us all, whom You formed out of clay.**

Kyrie *LSB 204*

C **Lord, have mercy;**
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Seasonal Sequence

L The season of Advent is a time of rapid forward movement in the life of the church as we hurry to Bethlehem and "haste, haste to bring Him laud" (*LSB* 370:1), to bring praise to the Christ Child. This Advent season, we will be hearing the words of Mark's Gospel, which will move us along as we rejoice in the Advent of our Lord Jesus, the

"bright and Morning Star" (*LSB* 872). Together we sing a prayer hymn for the season.

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 64:1–9*

1 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.
5 You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time,
and shall we be saved?
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take

us away.
7There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.
8But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Psalm 80:1–7*

C **Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!**

I *Men: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.*

II *Women: Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up Your might and come to save us!*

C **Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

I *Men: O LORD God of hosts, how long will You be angry with Your people's prayers? You have fed them with the*

bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

Ⅱ *Women: You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.*

℣ **Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**
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.

Epistle *1 Corinthians 1:3–9*

3Grace to you and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

4I give thanks to my God always for you
because of the grace of God that was
given you in Christ Jesus, 5that in every
way you were enriched in him in all
speech and all knowledge—6even as
the testimony about Christ was
confirmed among you—7so that you are
not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you
wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus
Christ, 8who will sustain you to the end,
guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus
Christ. 9God is faithful, by whom you
were called into the fellowship of his Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ⅼ This is the Word of the Lord.

℣ **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual and Verse *Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 24:7; 118:26, alt.*

C Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

I *Men: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.*

II *Women: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.*

C Alleluia. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Mark 11:1–10*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Triumphal Entry

1When they drew near to Jerusalem, to
Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount
of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples
2and said to them, "Go into the village in
front of you, and immediately as you
enter it you will find a colt tied, on which
no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it.
3If anyone says to you, 'Why are you
doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it
and will send it back here immediately.'"
4And they went away and found a colt
tied at a door outside in the street, and
they untied it. 5And some of those
standing there said to them, "What are
you doing, untying the colt?" 6And they

told them what Jesus had said, and they
let them go. 7And they brought the colt
to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and
he sat on it. 8And many spread their
cloaks on the road, and others spread
leafy branches that they had cut from
the fields. 9And those who went before
and those who followed were shouting,
"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in
the name of the Lord! 10Blessed is the
coming kingdom of our father David!
Hosanna in the highest!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn: 566 By Grace I'm Saved *sts. 1–3*

1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and
boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood
taught?
No! Then this word must true remain:
By grace you too will life obtain.

2 By grace! None dare lay claim to
merit;
Our works and conduct have no
worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.

3 By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our
sin.
Was it because of your own merit

That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon: "The Sheer Brilliancy of His Grace" *1 Cor. 1:3-9*

Hymn: 566 By Grace I'm Saved

sts. 4–6

4 By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration,
What in His Word our God commands,
Our faith in what our God has done
Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;

In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Text: Public domain

Apostles' Creed *Nicene Creed*

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✢ everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the church, the community of God's forgiven people, asking that our pastors continue to speak with power among us and that we all be engaged fully in service to God and in ministry to one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplications.**

P We pray this day, as the new Church Year begins, for the fellowship of faith and love that we enjoy as God's holy people, asking that You lead us to continue to gather for worship with great joy and full anticipation of the gifts of God that come to us through our worship. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplications.**

P And we pray for those who serve in leadership positions in our national Synod, our district, and our local congregation, that God work among us through their example and witness so that we grow in devotion and dedication in Jesus' name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplications.**

P We also pray this day for the sick, the shut-in and all who are in need of our prayers, [*especially . . .*], that their prayers be answered soon and that they be supported by God's people as they experience His good and gracious will for their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplications.**

P We pray for those for whom the season of Advent and Christmas may be sad or challenging, that we faithfully reach out to them with compassion and joy, keeping our focus always on the wonderful action of God on our behalf through the coming of Jesus, the King of glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplications.**

P With thankfulness we ask God's blessing on all who brighten these darkening days of the year—the shop workers and postal clerks, the musicians and carolers, the delivery people, and all those who work long hours. Help us be truly appreciative of all those who carry out their vocations for the betterment of our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our supplications.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Offering

Hymn: 806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

1 Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks.

Text: Henry Smith, 1952
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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.

Hymn: 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

4 Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

△5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.
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MINISTRY CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sun Nov 29
9 am – Adult Bible Study –
9 am – Children's Sunday School
10 am – First Sunday in Advent

Mon Nov 30
4:30 pm -- Confirmation class
6:30 pm – Lutheranism 101

Tues Dec 1
10 am – Adult bible study
11 am -- Prayer Warriors

Wed Dec 2
5:30 pm Soup supper
6:30 pm Advent Worship

Thur Dec 3

Fri Dec 4

Sat Dec 5

Sun Dec 6

9 am – Adult Bible Study –
9 am – Children's Sunday School
10 am – Second Sunday in Advent

WORSHIP SERVANTS November 29, 2026

Acolyte: Andrew Eppler
Elders: Walt Reister
Pastor: Pastor Kenneth Huner
Organist: Liz Mikkelson
Altar: Barb Yek
Counting: Deb Dugan and Joanna Krueger
Ushers: Mitch and Lynda Minger
Greeters: Ben Ratliff and Daniel Eppler
Coffee Hour: Haley and Alice

CHARTING OUR COURSE

Attendance week of Nov 22, 2026
10:00 am Worship in Person: 73/Online plays: 108
Communion: NA
9:00 am Kids Sunday school In Person: 3
9:00 am Adult Bible Class in Person: 12 /Online plays: 114

Sermon Notes:

"The Sheer Brilliancy of His Grace"

1 Cor. 1:3-9

1. "I have been made Rich in Christ"

2. "I have the official certification of the abundant and eternal life