



Sunday Series in Advent

**GOD PREPARES YOU FOR HIS COMING
1) WITH HIS CLEANSING**

9:00 & 11:15 am November 29, 2020



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reaching Out in Rim Country with Rock-Solid Hope in Jesus

Welcome!

- May the message you hear today will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- **Our mission** is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.
- **Large print** service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.
- **Restrooms** are located at the far ends of the entry area.
- Thank you for respecting your fellow worshippers by practicing **social distancing**. Volunteers are sanitizing the shared touch points between services.
- **Children's** activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.
- We are part of a world-wide Christian body and support the gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net





Song Service

Each fifth Sunday of the month we have a special song service.

Hymn

Come and See

♪ **Come and see the glory of the Lord,
Come behold the Lamb.
Come and know the mercy of the King,
Bowing down before him.**

**Come and give thanks unto the Lord,
Come behold the Lamb
Come and sing the praises of the King,
Bowing down before him.**

**For he is Lord above the heavens,
Lord in all the earth.
Lord of all the angels, worthy to be served.
Alleluia, alleluia Lord.**

In In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you:
God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness,
we lie and do not live by the truth.

If we claim to be without sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:5-8*

Father, I have sinned against you and am no longer worthy to be called your child. Yet in mercy you sacrificed your only Son to purge away my guilt. For his sake, O God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and in the joy of your Holy Spirit let me serve you all my days.

- Silence for personal examination and confession

Absolution

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Upon this, your confession, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit. ^{1 John 1:9}

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response of Praise

Peace Came to Earth

Christian Worship Supplement 707:1,4

First stanza by soloist or choir

♪ Peace came to earth at last that chosen night
When angels clove the sky with song and light
And God embodied love and sheathed his might—
Who could but gasp: Immanuel! Who could but sing: Immanuel!

4. How else could I have known you, O my God!

How else could I have loved you, O my God!

How else could I embrace you, O my God!

Who could but pray: Immanuel! Who could but praise: Immanuel!

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 6:1-3, 5-14, 17-22

The great flood was necessary because of the great sin of mankind

This is what happened when mankind began to multiply on the face of the earth. When daughters were born to people, ²the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they took as wives for themselves any of them they chose. ³The Lord said, "My Spirit will not struggle with man forever, because he is only flesh. His days will be 120 years."

⁵The Lord saw that the wickedness of mankind was great on the earth, and that all the thoughts and plans they formed in their hearts were only evil every day. ⁶The Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with sorrow. ⁷The Lord said, "I will wipe out mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth, along with the animals, the creeping things, and the birds of the sky, because I regret that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

⁹This is the account about the development of Noah's family. Noah was a righteous man, a man of integrity in that generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. ¹¹In the sight of God the earth was morally corrupt, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹²God looked at the earth and saw that it was corrupt, for all flesh was corrupt in all their ways on the earth.

¹³So God said to Noah, "I have decreed the end of all flesh, because the earth is filled with violence because of them. Now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. ¹⁴"Make an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark. Seal it inside and outside with pitch. ¹⁷"I myself am about to bring a flood of waters on the earth, in order to destroy all flesh under the sky that has the breath of life. Everything that is on the earth will die, ¹⁸but I will establish my covenant with you. You shall come into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹You shall bring a pair (male and female) of every kind of living flesh into the ark with you to keep them alive. ²⁰Include the birds according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, every creeping thing on the ground according to their kinds. Two of every sort shall come to you, so you can keep them alive. ²¹Take with you every type of food that is eaten, and store it for yourself, so it can be used as food for you and for them." ²²So that is what Noah did. He did everything that God commanded him, just as he had been told.

Who is he, this King of glory?

The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

**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

1 Peter 3:18-22

Baptism saves you.

Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, ¹⁹in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. ²⁰These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. ²¹And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. ²²He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Verse of the Day

(Revelation 22:20)

Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

Gospel

Mark 13:32-37

Keep watch because we do not know the time when God will come.

"No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. ³⁵Therefore keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at

midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. ³⁶If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!"

Hymn of the Day

Savior of the Nations Come
Christian Worship 2

♪ **Savior of the nations, come;
Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**2. Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God
Was the Word of God made flesh,
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.**

**3. Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child Of the virgin undefiled,
Though by all the world disowned, Yet to be in heav'n enthroned!**

**4. From the Father's throne he came And ascended to the same,
Captive leading death and hell -- High the song of triumph swell!**

**5. Praise to God the Father sing, Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be Ever and eternally.**

Sermon

1 Peter 3:18-22

Advent 2020

God Prepares You For His Coming

Nov 29 **With His Cleansing He Saves** (*1 Peter 3:18-22*)

Dec 6 With His Messengers He Calls (*Mark 1:1-8*)

Dec 13 With His Spirit He Sanctifies (*1 Thes. 5:16-24*)

Dec 20 With His Gospel He Strengthens (*Ro. 16:25-27*)

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

Tune: BEACH SPRING (CW 353)

♪ I believe in God the Father,
Maker of the heav'n and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, our Savior,
God's own Son of human birth.

Virgin-born, the Lord incarnate,
Whom the Spirit did conceive;
Suffered under Pontius Pilate;
He's the God whom I believe!

Crucified, was dead and buried;
Down to hell in victory;
From the dead he rose the third day;
Up to heav'n triumphantly.

There at God's right hand he's ruling,
By his will the world is led.
He will come to judge the nations,
Both the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Spirit,
In his Church, his chosen band.
They are joined in sweet communion,
Holy in his sight they stand.

I believe in sins forgiven; I believe I'll rise again;
I believe in life eternal. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Today the offerings can be placed on the table as you enter or exit.

Prayer of the Church

Lord Teach Us How to Pray Aright
Christian Worship 412

♪ Lord, teach us how to pray aright,
With rev'ence and with fear.
Though dust and ashes in your sight,
We may, we must draw near.

2. We suffer if we cease from prayer; Oh, grant us pow'r to pray.
And when to meet you we prepare, Lord, meet us on the way.

3. Give deep humility; the sense Of godly sorrow give;
A strong desire, with confidence, To hear your voice and live;

4. Faith in the only sacrifice That can for sin atone,
To cast our hopes, to fix our eyes On Christ, on Christ alone.

5. Give these, and then your will be done;
Thus strengthened with your might
We, through your Spirit and your Son,
Shall pray, and pray aright.

Lord's Prayer

Sung by 4 For Christ

Special Prayers

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Advent Benediction

♪ 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. peace, and give you peace...

♪ **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.**

Hymn

Jesus, Your Church with Longing Eyes

Christian Worship 9:1-2,5

♪ **Jesus, your Church with longing eyes
For your expected coming waits.
When will the promised light arise
And glory beam from heaven's gates?**

**2. E'en now, when tempests round us fall
And wintry clouds o'er cast the sky,
Your words with pleasure we recall
And know that our redemption's nigh.**

**5. Teach us in watchfulness and prayer
To wait for your appointed hour,
And fit us by your grace to share
The triumphs of your conqu'ring pow'r.**

Acknowledgments

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- Linda Jilk's brother-in-law (Linda is a friend of our congregation); that God would help comfort him with his love during his illness and hospitalization; that God might give him strength and healing.
- Don Ascoli who experienced a sudden unexplained severe memory loss on Tuesday; that God give him a good memory recovery, provide healing, and keep him safe.
- Bud Sitz; who is having difficulty swallowing and Wanda Sitz who will be having heart surgery next week; that God strengthen and comfort them and give them his peace always.
- Miriam, Tom & Bethany's niece; that God be with her next week as she undergoes surgery.

Attendance

11/19 Midweek Bible Study: 7
11/22 Sunday Worship: 61
11/22 Sunday Bible Class: 20
11/22 Confirmation Class: 2

God's Creation Calendars

Contact Jeni Strickland. All funds raised will go to the summer "Making Music" program.

Christmas Decorations

Thanks to everyone who helped set-up decorations for Christmas. If you'd like to help you can mark down 9am January 5th as the time help take down the decorations.

Christmas Caroling

Join our group as we social distance outdoors to share Christmas carols in our community. We'll begin by meeting at church 3pm on Dec 15 & 17.

Received in November \$11,495.67 (to date)

Flooring Project

Thanks to the volunteers installing new flooring in the Children's Ministry room and office areas. Please do not enter this part of the building until the project is complete.

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, November 29 Advent 1

9:00am Service
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Wednesday, December 2

9:00am Elders Meeting
6:00pm Midweek Advent Service

Thursday, December 3

10:00am Staring Point Class

Sunday, December 6 Advent 2

9:00am Service
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Serving This Week

Flowers, Communion Setup: Grace Popelier
Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ
Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel
Ushers: Jerry Zuvich (9:00), Del Kary (11:15)

Christmas Practice

The Preschoolers (ages 3-6) at Rock of Ages will be meeting right after the late service for the next three Sundays to practice their Christmas Eve song.



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