

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

“The Jesse Tree”

December 1, 2024

9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” . . Carla Barrows, Organ
by John Leavitt

WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
arr. Forrest

Come, Thou long-expected, Jesus,
born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of ev’ry nation,
joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Come, O Sov’reign Prince of Heaven;
come, O wondrous Love Divine.
Earth and heaven bow before Thee,
Everlasting Peace sublime.
O Thou Source of joy and wonder,
bless us as we seek Thy face.
At Thy manger grant us mercy,
In Thine Advent grant us grace.

Born Thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever,
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

P Please be seated.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH “Advent’s Holy Light” by Joel Raney

Choir: *As we watch for the dawn of a brighter day, a candle of hope
lights the way.*

*As we look for the signs of the promised birth, of a Savior who
brings heaven to earth.*

All: **Lord, we are waiting for peace to reign. Lord, we are listen-
ing for love’s refrain. For hope, peace, and joy and love to
unite in the beauty and wonder of Advent’s holy light.**

Reader: Our Advent journey begins today with the lighting of the first
candle, the candle of Hope. Like the flame of a candle, may
hope be ignited in our hearts, reminding us that brighter days
are ahead.

Reader: For those of us facing difficult challenges

People: Ignite our hearts with hope

Reader: For the end of wars wreaking havoc and pain in our world

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

Reader: For safety for those fleeing the tyranny of oppression

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

Reader: For the light of forgiveness to shine in our hearts

People: Ignite our hearts with hope.

Reader: Gracious Creator, in moments of uncertainty, we turn to You with hearts heavy but hopeful. Grant us the strength to navigate challenges, the wisdom to see possibilities, and the courage to embrace the journey ahead. May hope be our guiding light, leading us to a future filled with grace, love, and possibilities beyond our imagining. Amen.

All: Lord, we are waiting for peace to reign. Lord, we are listening for love's refrain. For hope, peace, and joy and love to unite in the beauty and wonder of Advent's holy light.

CONFESSION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P 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.

RESPONSIVE READING

P The Jesse Tree, Christ's family tree,

C **Points us the way to Jesus.**

P From Eden down to Calvary,

C **Our loving Savior frees us.**

P The promise is for you and me

C **And points the way to Jesus.**

READING Isaiah 11:1-2

R A reading from Isaiah 11.

R ¹There shall come forth a Shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

JESSE TREE INTRODUCTION Pastor Michael P. Dorn

HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel". . LSB 357, vs. 1, 4, 7

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. **Refrain**

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. **Refrain**

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READINGGenesis 3:1-15

R A reading from Genesis 3.

R ¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" ²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they

were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SONG “O Jesse Tree” vs. 1 & 2

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!
When Eve and Adam took that bite,
God promised to make all things right.
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!
God cleansed the world from evil sin;
Another promise would begin.

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

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CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Haley Zimmerman, Dir. of Youth
and Children’s Ministries

SONG “O Jesse Tree” vs. 3 & 4

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!
God promised Abraham a son;
His line would bring the Chosen One.

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!
Through Abr’am’s line came sacrifice;
But it was God who paid the price!

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

READING Genesis 28:10–14

R A reading from Genesis 28.

R ¹⁰Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹²And he dreamed, and behold, there was

a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

JESSE TREE MEDITATION Pastor Michael P. Dorn

SONG “O Jesse Tree” vs. 5

O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.
God’s promise shows His love for all, and with His Son, He frees us!
When Jacob’s planning fell apart,
God granted him a brand-new start.
O Jesse Tree—Christ’s fam’ly tree—point us the way to Jesus.

PRAYERS

THE 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.

OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING . . . “Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming” Sanctuary Choir arr. Howard Helvey

*Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse’s lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God’s love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.*

*O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;
True man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load;
And share our every load.*

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“What Child is This/Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child” . . Carla Barrows, Organ

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“When All the World Was Cursed” LSB 346

When all the world was cursed
By Moses' condemnation,
Saint John the Baptist came
With words of consolation.
With true forerunner's zeal
The greater One he named,
And Him, as yet unknown,
As Savior he proclaimed.

Before he yet was born,
He leaped in joyful meeting,
Confessing Him as Lord
Whose mother he was greeting.
By Jordan's rolling stream,
A new Elijah bold,
He testified of Him
Of whom the prophets told:

Behold the Lamb of God
That bears the world's transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.

O grant, dear Lord of love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with Him
In His eternal day.

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.

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.

Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon His throne.

Then stepped forth the Lord of all
From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man,
His heroic course began.

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DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

RECESSIONAL. . . . “O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly” . . . LSB 897, vs. 1, 2

O rejoice, ye Christians, loudly,
For our joy has now begun;
Wondrous things our God has done.
Tell abroad His goodness proudly,
Who our race has honored thus,
That He deigns to dwell with us.

Refrain: Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,
Christ has done away with sadness!
Hence, all sorrow and repining,
For the Sun of Grace is shining!

See, my soul, thy Savior chooses
Weakness here and poverty;
In such love He comes to thee.
Neither crib nor cross refuses;
All He suffers for thy good
To redeem thee by His blood. **Refrain**

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POSTLUDE “Savior of the Nations, Come” . . . Carla Barrows, Organ
by Paul Manz

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting 1 from Lutheran Service Book

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