

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, FERNDALE  
10:30 AM, DECEMBER 7TH, 2025

Prelude

“Gesu Bambino”

Vince McCormick

Welcome & Announcements

The Box

Juniors Explore leave following  
(children ages 4-5 through middle school)

Processional Hymn

“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Hymnal 254



1 Come, thou long-ex - spect-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.

Greeting;

Pastor: My soul magnifies our God;

**People: My spirit rejoices in God my savior**

The Mighty One has done great things!

**Holy is God's name.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Assistant: Happy are those whose help is our God. Let us seek God's help as we confess our sins.

**God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's song, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you.**

**We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.**

Pastor: God forgives all our sins and promises to bring us to everlasting life. **Thanks be to God!**

## Kyrie

(ACS page 31)

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.  
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

## Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of God be with you all. **And also with you!**

*At Zion we share the ASL/universal sign for peace, or other non-physical contact to greet one another.*

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

Assistant: We light this candle as a symbol of God's coming power on earth. For God elevates the lowly, releases the captive and brings healing to all in need. We rejoice in Christ's justice and mercy, faithful to all generations. **Come, O Savior, come.**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 1+2)

Hymn 257

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

*O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay teach us your will and guide our way.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

## Prayer of the Day

Assistant: Stir up our hearts, **O God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Isaiah 11:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup> The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. <sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup> They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19**

<sup>1</sup> Give the ruler your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to a ruler's son.

<sup>2</sup> **May the ruler judge your people with righteousness  
and your poor with justice.**

<sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> **May the ruler defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the needy,  
and crush the oppressor.**

<sup>5</sup> May the ruler live while the sun endures  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

<sup>6</sup> **May the ruler be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth.**

<sup>7</sup> In the ruler's days may righteousness flourish  
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

<sup>18</sup> **Blessed be the One, the God of Israel,  
who alone does wondrous things.**

<sup>19</sup> Blessed be God's glorious name forever;  
may God's glory fill the whole earth.  
Amen and Amen.

### **Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and

encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,<sup>6</sup> so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.<sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors<sup>9</sup> and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”;<sup>10</sup> and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;<sup>11</sup> and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”;<sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.”<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**

(Hymn 175)

The image shows a musical score for the Gospel Acclamation 'Alleluia'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a soprano clef (treble clef) and the piano accompaniment is written in a bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The tempo and style are not specified. The lyrics are 'Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm. The piano accompaniment features a simple harmonic structure with chords and moving lines. The vocal line is a simple melody with some rests. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line.

### **Matthew 3:1-12**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O God.**

<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup> “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’” <sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, <sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell

you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Living One. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Special Music**

"A Voice in the Wilderness"

Chancel Choir

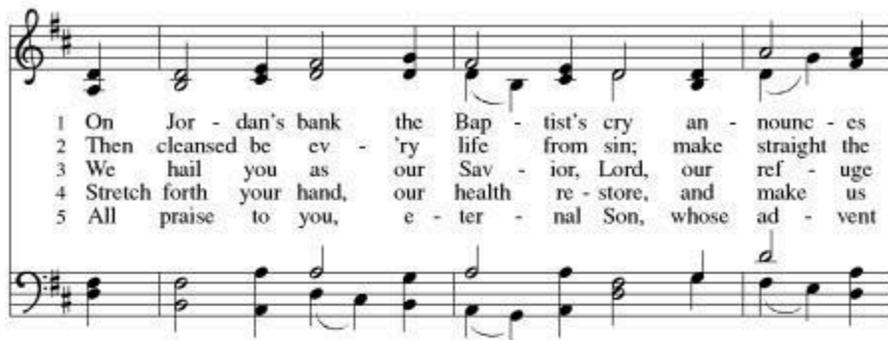
**Sermon**

Pastor Matthew Bode

**Hymn**

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

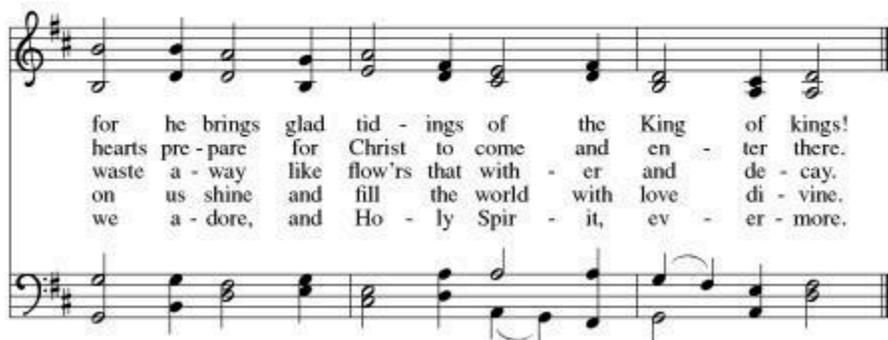
Hymn 249



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 our way for God with - in, and let us all - en,  
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay,  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine,  
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

Assistant: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

### *Wait for the Lord*

(Hymn 262)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence marked by a double bar line and a sharp sign.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation continues the hymn in the same key and time signature. It also consists of two staves. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The melody continues with a final cadence marked by a double bar line.

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

### *Wait for the Lord*

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another and support all facing violence, especially in Gaza, the West Bank, Ukraine and Sudan. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease, and especially those we bring to you now... Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

### ***Wait for the Lord***

With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

### ***Wait for the Lord***

Pastor: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

### **Offertory**

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

Hymn 885

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heav’nly host;  
praise I-Am, Son and Holy Ghost

*Service note: In this version of the doxology the first person in the trinity is referred to as “I Am”, in deference to one of the Hebrew names for God.*

### **Offertory Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray. **Thanks be to you, O God, maker of heaven and earth - giver of justice, lover of righteousness, hope of the afflicted, and friend of the poor. Your faithfulness never fails. Take and use these gifts we offer to further your purpose in the world and to fulfill the promise of the world to come; through Christ our Savior, Amen.**

*Ways to give -*

- Venmo @ZionFerndale (confirmation code 7498)
- Vanco mobile app (code VHLXGH)
- [www.zionlutheranmi.org](http://www.zionlutheranmi.org)
- Offering plate located in the middle of the center aisle
- Mail to church mailing address

## Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor: God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You call all people to follow your paths of justice and peace, beating their swords into pruning hooks. In the light of your holy Word we look for the day when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, nor learn war anymore. Therefore with the entire company of heaven, and with your people on earth who live in this hope, we praise you and join in the never-ending hymn:

(Hymn 192)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: Holy are you and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son, for he is Immanuel, God with us. Fulfilling the expectations of the prophets he healed those in need, cleansed the lepers, raised the dead, and brought good news to the poor. Through his life, death and resurrection you manifest your new covenant with humankind, and through the church of his disciples you give testimony to the power of your salvation for the world.

For on the night he was betrayed he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup and gave thanks, saying, “Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Therefore in remembrance of all your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we give ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a living sacrifice in union with Christ’s offering for the world as we declare:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, gathered here out of love for you, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Let the bread we break be a true fellowship in the body of Christ. Let the cup we share be a true participation in the covenant in his blood. By your Spirit empower us to be Christ for the world, serving in his name until the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Savior as the waters cover the sea. Through your son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Pastor: Holy One, remember us in your reign and teach us to pray:

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

### **Distribution**

*Zion welcomes and encourages those of all faith backgrounds to communion. We believe that the death and resurrection of Christ makes us all worthy and needing of the sacrament regardless of background, age or any other factor.*

**Communion Hymns**

**“We Are Waiting for Jesus”**

(ACS 905)

1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

**“Hark, the Glad Sound!”**

Hymn 239

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Pastor: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn**

**“Prepare the Royal Highway”**

Hymn 264

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!  
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!  
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!  
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!  
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!  
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.  
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

*Refrain*  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

**Benediction**

Pastor: Fear not, people of God. God brings you strength and victory. As you depart this day, may you feel Christ's presence and hear his song singing over you now and forevermore.

Assistant: Go in peace, wait for God in gladness.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude**

Scott Schroeder

*\*Note: The liturgy for this season comes, with some edits, from "Feasting on the Word: Advent Companion," David L. Bartlett, et al., editors, 2014.*

**Today's Worship Leaders:**

Assistant Minister:

Lector: Hope Hughes

Cantor: Grace Ward

Cross Bearer: Ethan Schroeder

Juniors Teachers: Cecelia Mac-Smith/Eric Podolsky

**Staff:**

The Rev. Matthew Bode, Pastor

Office Manager: Stacey Jamison

Custodian: Anthony Bailey

Chancel Choir Director: Roger Smith

Organist: Scott Schroeder

Juniors Music Ministry: Stacey Jamison

Tech Ministry: George Stuteville

**Zion Council/Lay Leadership:**

Emily Corey, President

Hunter Hicks, Vice President

Cecelia Mac-Smith, Secretary

Dagmar Jones, Treasurer

Ann McChesney

Natalie Melnick

Matt Northcott

Jackie Oliver

Martha Struck

Michael Weiszbrod