

# First Sunday in Advent

## “The Gift of Hope”

November 28, 2021

### As We Gather

In a world with so much trouble, Jesus comes to us with the gift of hope. What is Christian hope and what does this gift mean for how we face our troubles?

### Welcome

#### “Living Hope”

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished the end is written  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace  
The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free  
Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me  
You have broken every chain  
There's salvation in Your name  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Then came the morning that sealed the promise  
Your buried body began to breathe  
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion  
Declared the grave has no claim on me  
Jesus Yours is the victory

Jesus Christ my living hope  
Oh God You are my living hope

### Invocation

### Confession and Absolution

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: Today we light the first candle of the Advent wreath. The first candle is the candle of HOPE.

*(The HOPE candle is lit.)*

Leader: Romans 15:13 - <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, fill us with hope, the hope that is found only in You, that in every trial, we may have faith to trust that our lives are eternally in Your hands. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

**“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come” LSB 350**

1 Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,  
Only hope for sinful mortals!  
Come, O Savior of the world!  
Open are to Thee all portals.  
Come, Thy beauty let us see;  
Anxiously we wait for Thee.

3 My hosannas and my palms  
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;  
Evermore, as best I can,  
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,  
And in faith I will embrace,  
Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

2 Enter now my waiting heart,  
Glorious King and Lord most holy.  
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,  
Though I am but poor and lowly.  
Ah, what riches will be mine  
When Thou art my guest divine!

4 Hail! Hosanna, David's Son!  
Jesus, hear our supplication!  
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,  
Bring us blessing and salvation,  
That forever we may sing:  
Hail! Hosanna to our King.

**Prayer**

**Children's Church**

**Readings**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16**

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

<sup>15</sup> “In those days and at that time  
I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line;  
he will do what is just and right in the land.

<sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved  
and Jerusalem will live in safety.  
This is the name by which it will be called:  
The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? <sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup> Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup> May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup> May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36**

“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. <sup>26</sup> People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. <sup>31</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

<sup>32</sup> “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

*This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to You O Christ!**

**Apostles' Creed**

**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.**

**Sermon**

**“The Gift of Hope”**

**Offering**

**Hymn**

**“Once He Come in Blessing” LSB 333**

1 Once He came in blessing,  
All our sins redressing;  
Came in likeness lowly,  
Son of God most holy;  
Bore the cross to save us;  
Hope and freedom gave us.

3 Soon will come that hour  
When with mighty power  
Christ will come in splendor  
And will judgement render,  
With the faithful sharing  
Joy beyond comparing.

2 Now He gently leads us;  
With Himself He feeds us  
Precious food from heaven,  
Pledge of peace here given,  
Manna that will nourish  
Souls that they may flourish.

4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus,  
From our sins release us.  
Keep our hearts believing,  
That we, grace receiving,  
Ever may confess You  
Till in heav'n we bless You.

**Prayers**

*Please add your prayer requests to the chat*

**Thanksgivings**

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Petitions**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

**St. John’s People and Families to Pray for This Week**

Tony Carafa & Karen Schoenfeld  
Darlene Elia and Landon Abraham  
Robert & Darlene Jones  
Janet Peterson  
Auguste Streich  
A.C., Makayla, Kennedy, Kepa, Lawrence, & William Branco  
Marc, Jennifer, & Nicholas Gallo  
Chris, Kelsey, & Brook Hunsaker  
Ibrahima, Cathy, & Gina Ngom  
Sonia Frank and Margaret Walton

**The Lord’s Prayer**

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.

**Benediction**

### **“Graves Into Gardens”**

I searched the world but it couldn't fill me  
A man's empty praise and treasures that fade  
Are never enough  
Then You came a - long and put me back  
together  
And every desire is now satisfied  
Here in Your love

#### **Chorus**

Oh there's nothing better than You  
There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show you my weakness  
My failures and flaws lord you've seen them all  
And you still call me friend  
'Cause the God of the mountain  
Is the God of the valley  
And there's not a place

Your mercy and grace won't find me again

#### **Chorus**

You turn mourning to dancing  
You give beauty for ashes  
You turn shame into glory  
You're the only one who can

You turn graves into gardens  
You turn bones into armies  
You turn seas into highways  
You're the only one who can **Chorus**

Oh there's nothing better than You  
There's nothing better than You  
Lord there's nothing, nothing is better than You

### **Offering**

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

### **Memory Verse for This Week**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you  
may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Romans 15:13**

## Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Readers	Gail Vandeburgt, Gunnar De Young
Sound Technicians	Brian Schoenfeld
Streaming Technicians	Joshua Wright
Worship Preparation Team	Gerry & Midge Schneider, Ron Irwin, & Jan Newton
Usher	Gerry Schneider
Projection Technician	Sarah Kramer
Musicians	Tom Hoff, Gabriel Gutiérrez, Christopher Newman, James Regan

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