

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 - ¹³ 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.

¹⁵ “‘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.

¹⁶ 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? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹² May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³ 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. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

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

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

³⁴ “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. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ 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

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|--------------------------|--|
| 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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