

November 29th, 2023: Midweek Advent 1

CHILDREN OF THE PROMISE: Moses

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Advent Gathering Rite

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of deep darkness

a light has dawned.

Hymn: 311 Dawning Light of Our Salvation

Soloist



1 Long in dark - ness Is - rael wan - dered; long in mor - tal



shad - ows we walked in bond - age and self - pit - y, trod in



paths of sin and grief. In the proph - ets' words he told us,



long the God of Is - rael spoke; he a - lone in strength would

Continued on the next page



save us from the hands of all our foes.



Ev - 'ry val - ley be ex - alt - ed! Ev - 'ry moun - tain



be made plain! Crook - ed ways re - pent and straight - en;



all cre - a - tion bend in praise!

Text: Wendell Kimbrough, b. 1983

Tune: Bruce Benedict, b. 1980

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Confession of Sin

Advent is a season of repentance and preparation. In a humble spirit of repentance, let us confess our sins to God, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit, and sins of choice.

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

Oh Lord, I am sorry for my sins.

Forgive me for Jesus' sake.

The congregation sings:

Hymn: 311 Dawning Light of Our Salvation

sts. Ref, 2

2 He shall raise a might - y Sav - ior; born of Da - vid's
lin - eage, he comes in cov - 'nant love to claim us, from our
sins to set us free. Light to those who dwell in dark - ness,
life to those from death who flee, joy un - to the earth, and
glad - ness, to your path - ways dawn - ing peace!

Refrain

Ev - 'ry val - ley be ex - alt - ed! Ev - 'ry moun - tain
be made plane! Crook - ed ways re - pent and straight - en;
all cre - a - tion bend in praise!

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Absolution

God has forgiven all of your sins. Showing the greatest act of selfless love, he sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to take your place. Jesus came to die so that you might be free from the guilt and punishment of your sins. We praise God for his love and forgiveness.

Amen.

The congregation sings:

Hymn: 311 Dawning Light of Our Salvation

sts. Ref, 3

3 Je - sus, Lord, and might - y Sav - ior, Da - vid's son and
yet his King, dawn - ing light of our sal - va - tion, of your
sav - ing pow'r we sing! Stand, O lame, and dance, ye bro - ken;
know the Sav - ior's heal - ing grace. Come, O deaf, and hear him
sing - ing; turn, O blind, be - hold his face!

Refrain
Ev - 'ry val - ley be ex - alt - ed! Ev - 'ry moun - tain
be made plane! Crook - ed ways re - pent and straight - en;
all cre - a - tion bend in praise!

Prayer

Let us pray.

Lord, in ancient times you rescued your people despite their unfaithfulness. Though you delivered them from slavery in Egypt and brought them into a land flowing with milk and honey, they grumbled and rebelled against you time and again. Truly, you are a God who saves your people not because of their goodness and faithfulness but simply because of your great mercy. For this we thank you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reading

Exodus 2:1–10

¹Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, ²and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. ³But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. ⁴His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.

⁵Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. ⁶She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said.

⁷Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?"

⁸"Yes, go," she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. ¹⁰When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reading

Acts 7:30–38

³⁰“After forty years had passed, an angel appeared to Moses in the flames of a burning bush in the desert near Mount Sinai. ³¹When he saw this, he was amazed at the sight. As he went over to get a closer look, he heard the Lord say: ³²‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.’ Moses trembled with fear and did not dare to look.

³³“Then the Lord said to him, ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. ³⁴I have indeed seen the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have heard their groaning and have come down to set them free. Now come, I will send you back to Egypt.’

³⁵“This is the same Moses they had rejected with the words, ‘Who made you ruler and judge?’ He was sent to be their ruler and deliverer by God himself, through the angel who appeared to him in the bush. ³⁶He led them out of Egypt and performed wonders and signs in Egypt, at the Red Sea and for forty years in the wilderness.

³⁷“This is the Moses who told the Israelites, ‘God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people.’ ³⁸He was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to pass on to us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Reading

Hebrews 11:23–29

²³By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.

²⁴By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. ²⁵He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 322 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Sermon: Acts 7:30-38

Rev. David Scherbarth

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.**

Offering

868 By Faith

sts 1-3. Refrain sung after each verse.

Prayer

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works comes from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

Blessing

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Presiding Minister:

Pastor Raasch/Pastor Priewe

Organist:

Jon Riehle 10 am/ Klint Kaddatz 6 pm.

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