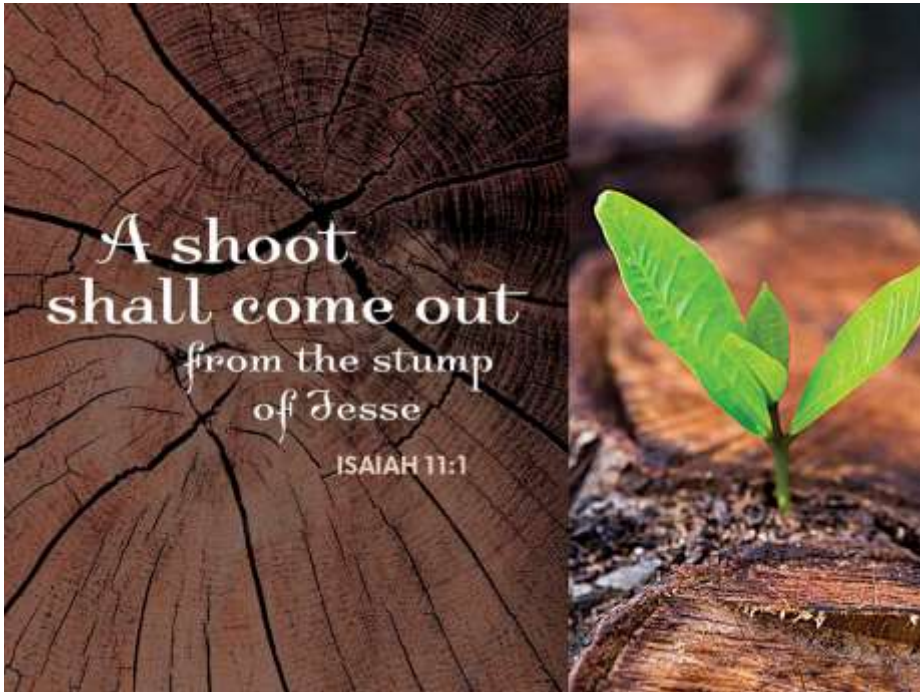


Second Sunday of Advent



December 4, 2022 | 9:00 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Welcome to the promise of Advent: Amid barren trees, Isaiah announces spring growth — a “shoot” representing new life in Jesus (Isaiah 11:1).

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” ELW #249

INTRODUCTION

At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord’s table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P We come to prepare the way;
C **The way for Christ—**
P the hope of Christ, the peace of Christ—
C **to enter our world, to enter our hearts.**
P We cry out together in the wilderness:
C **The kingdom of heaven has come near.**
P We come to be part of the light—
C **the light that shines in the darkness.**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

ADVENT HYMN “We Light the Advent Candles” (vs. 1 & 3) *printed*

Verse 1: *We light the Advent candles
against the winter night
to welcome our Lord Jesus,
who is the world’s true light;
to welcome our Lord Jesus
who is the world’s true light.*

Verse 3: *We light the second candle,
and hear God’s holy word.
It tells us, cling to Jesus,
prepare to meet your Lord.
It tells us, cling to Jesus,
prepare to meet your Lord.*

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OPENING PRAYER

P Holy God of Peace, We seek your peace in these darkening days. We seek a calm within. And an absence of conflict between people and nations. But more deeply, we seek your *shalom*—the deep and abiding peace that will come only through the justice of your kingdom. Amen.

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us lay before God and one another the distances between us, the impatience and lack of compassion that form our confessions this day. For if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. Yet in mercy, God will forgive us and renew us.

C **Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people.
We confess that we do not believe in your incarnation.
We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do.
We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends
as beloved children whom you have made.
In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways
and look to your power to heal us and raise us up,
so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.**

P The reign of God has come near; the repentant will be judged with righteousness. You are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. Rejoice and believe.

C Amen.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **Stir up our hearts, Lord 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 and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

ELW #250

(Alt. tune: ELW #282)

LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David’s royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

- L ¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;
C ²**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**
L ³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
C ⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
L ⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
C ⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
L ⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
C ¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**
L ¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

LESSON: Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

- P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

- P The Gospel of our Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

ELW #264

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P God, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus’ name we pray.
C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” ELW #885
(Alt. tune: ELW #257)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

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OFFERING PRAYER

P May your Spirit of generosity rest upon us, Caring God, so that our giving does not end here, but only begins to flow forth in a baptism of hope, of grace, of healing, and of peace to all around us, as well as those we may never meet. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!” ELW #246

(Alt. tune: ELW #494)

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” ELW #276

“Away in a Manger” ELW #277

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” ELW #279

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Hark, the Glad Sound” ELW #239

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is near.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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