



**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 14, 2025**

**11:00A**

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, CONOVER**

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand.*

**OPENING HYMN**

**“Hark the Glad Sound”**

**349**

## INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES**      *Phil. 4:4; Mt. 11:5; Is. 35:1; Psalm 146:2*

P Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C again I will say, Rejoice.**

P The dead are raised up,

**C and the poor have good news preached to them.**

P The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

**C the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus.**

P I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

**C I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**      *Isaiah 35:4, 6; James 5:8*

P Isaiah wrote that the coming of the Messiah would mean change as great as having “waters break forth in the wilderness.”

**C Help us value the water of our Baptism and the Word of God.**

**Give us strength and faith in our ongoing troubles.**

P When nothing appears to change, and our Lord’s return seems too far in the distant future, James urges, “Be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.”

**C Help us grow in patience, especially in times of disappointment when we would have preferred our Lord to have returned yesterday.**

P When our Lord returns, although He “will come with vengeance” to judge those who have opposed him, Isaiah promises, “He will come and save you.”

**C Forgive us, Lord, for our sins of thought, word, and deed.**

P Through His entire life, from birth through death and on to resurrection, Christ Jesus paid for all your sins when He came so long ago. When He comes through the Word today, it is to assure you that we are at peace with God. And when He returns it will be to lead us to heaven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## **KYRIE**

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C O Lord, Emmanuel, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C O Lord, Wisdom from on high, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C O Lord, Branch of Jesse’s tree, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C O Lord, Key of David, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to  
lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for  
You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*We sit.*

**ANTHEM**                    “An Invitation for Advent”                    Ruth Elaine Schram  
   *CCDS 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**    **Isaiah 35:1-10**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING**    **James 5:7-11**

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*We stand.*

**HYMN**    **“In This Advent”**

NETTLETON

James Pierce

*Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813*



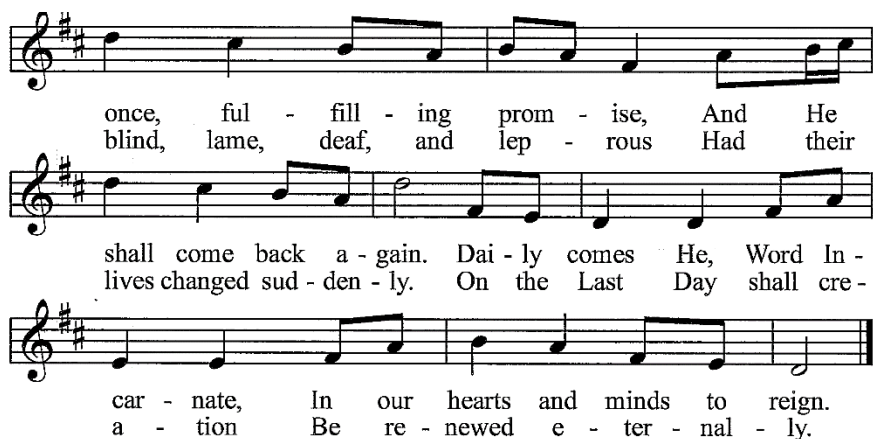
1 In this Ad - vent, broth - ers, sis - ters, Let us pause and  
2 Joy - ful - ly, O faith - ful breth - ren, Look and see what



so pre - pare That we may greet Christ, our Sav - ior,  
God has done. When He walked this earth of mis - 'ry,



Here in wor - ship and in prayer. He came  
Christ turned dark - ness in - to light. Man - y



once, ful - fill - ing prom - ise, And He  
blind, lame, deaf, and lep - rous Had their  
shall come back a - gain. Dai - ly comes He, Word In -  
lives changed sud - den - ly. On the Last Day shall cre -  
car - nate, In our hearts and minds to reign.  
a - tion Be re - newed e - ter - nal - ly.

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## **HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 11:2-15**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

*After the Gospel is read:*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

*We sit.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” 345**

**SERMON** “Stumbling Over Expectations” Pastor Michael Geml

**ANTHEM** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Jeff Reeves  
*CCDS 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes*

*We stand.*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

*Inside back cover of LSB*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

### **BENEDICAMUS**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** The blessing of God Almighty—the Father who created us, the T  
Son who saved us and shall return to welcome us home, and the  
Holy Spirit who creates and nourishes the faith that Jesus is the  
Lord—be with you now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN**

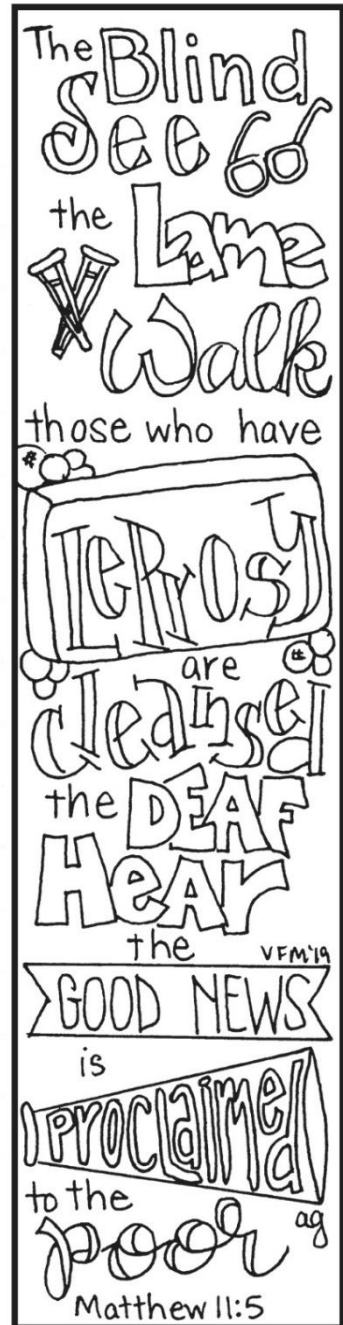
**“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”**

**348**

## **POSTLUDE**



## Sermon Notes



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