



ADVENT MIDWEEK 3

DECEMBER 18, 2024

**congregation stands*

AS WE GATHER

Tonight we consider why Jesus is called "Father" even though He is the eternal Son of the Father. Our Everlasting Father rules over creation and His people like a loving father and His kingdom is eternal. What great love He has for us, and what comfort this gives us, especially as we face trials and suffering in this world.

OPENING HYMN

JESUS! NAME OF WONDROUS LOVE

LSB 900, vs. 1, 3, 5

***INVOCATION**

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

C **Amen.**

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P The Everlasting Father rules over all but also tenderly cares for His people. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

C **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN**

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE, BEGOTTEN

LSB 384, vs. 1, 5

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 9:1–2, 6–7

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep
darkness,
on them has light shined.

C **⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon His
shoulder,**

**and His name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

A ⁷Of the increase of His government and of
peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over His
kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 2

A I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You.
Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?"

C **The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD
and against His anointed, saying,**

A "Let us burst Their bonds apart and cast away Their cords from us."

C **He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.**

A Then He will speak to them in His wrath, and terrify them in His fury, saying,

C **"As for Me, I have set My King on Zion, My holy hill."**

A I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You.

C **Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your
possession.**

A You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

C **Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

A Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

C **Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath is quickly kindled.**

A Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You.

EPISTLE

Colossians 1:15–20

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all

things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

***HOLY GOSPEL**

John 14:1–11

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.
- C **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

¹Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

***RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT**

Jeremiah 23:5a, 6

- P Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- P In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.
- C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

SERIES HYMN

THE PEOPLE THAT IN DARKNESS SAT

LSB 412, vs. 1–5

SERMON

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED: EVERLASTING FATHER

OFFERING

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

*LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

- C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

*LORD'S PRAYER

*BENEDICTION

- P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.
C **Amen.**

HYMN TO DEPART

LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD

LSB 352

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Serving Our Lord

		December 18, 2024
Officiant	6:30pm	Rev. James Kroonblawd
Musician	6:30pm	Diane Streich
Cantor	6:30pm	Andy Koch
Altar Guild	6:30pm	Nancy Strand and Sharon Drews
Elder	6:30pm	Sam Erdman
Reader	6:30pm	Jon Peterson
Usher Team	6:30pm	Jon Peterson
Acolyte	6:30pm	Open
Projection	6:30pm	Jean Peterson
Live Stream	6:30pm	Jim Nicklas
Advent Meal	5:15pm	WoW Bible study