

**December 1, 2024**

**First Sunday in Advent**



**St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

First Sunday in Advent

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**“St. Philip’s Evangelical Lutheran Church and School”**

[www.stphilipsmilwaukee.com](http://www.stphilipsmilwaukee.com)

**Pastor:** Raymond Kimbrough

**Principal:** Jason Schapekahn

**Welcome, Friend!**

**You Have Come to the Right Place!**

**Jesus Loves YOU!**

**WELCOME**

Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future.

For more information regarding St. Philip’s Lutheran Church,  
please contact Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373 or 414-254-6093.

For information on our K4 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Christian day school please contact  
our Principal, Jason Schapekahn at 414-263-7614 or 414-659-4688.

**A REAL CHRISTMAS**

**A REAL CHRISTMAS REQUIRES  
REMEMBERING WHY CHRIST CAME**

**EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY**

It is easy to get so caught up in the imagery—a tiny newborn baby, lying in the straw filled manger under a star-filled sky—that we forget the why. Why did the Son of God come into our world and take on human flesh? So that he might die as the sacrifice for our sins. One Christmas carol puts it this way. “Neither crib nor cross refuses, all he suffers for your good to redeem you by his blood.”

Advent marks the start of a new Church Year. We begin at the end, watching Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing full well that he would be killed before the end of the week. The events of Palm Sunday serve as a microcosm for all Jesus’ work, proving the Son of God was willing to humble himself and endure anything for our salvation. That is precisely why Christ came. And a real Christmas requires remembering why Christ came.

# 313 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

CW 313



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751, abr., alt.  
Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,  
I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.  
I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.  
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.  
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

# Glory to God in the Highest



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



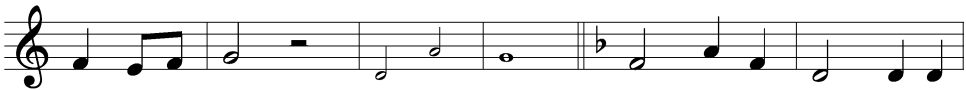
Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his



peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on



us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

Tune: © 2002 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 741883

## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

**Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Jeremiah 33:14–16*

<sup>14</sup>“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

<sup>15</sup>“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.

<sup>16</sup>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.’

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day *(Read responsively)*

*Psalm 24*

Lay Reader: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,

**Congregation: the world, and all who live in it;**

Lay Reader: for he founded it on the seas

**Congregation: and established it on the waters.**

Lay Reader: Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD?

**Congregation: Who may stand in his holy place?**

Lay Reader: The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,

**Congregation: they will receive blessing from God their Savior.**

Lay Reader: Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,

**Congregation: that the King of glory may come in.**

Lay Reader: Who is this King of glory?

**Congregation: The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.**

Lay Reader: Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors,

**Congregation: that the King of glory may come in.**

Lay Reader: Who is he, this King of glory?

**Congregation: The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.**

**Lay Reader & Congregation: 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.**

## Second Reading

*1 Thessalonians 3:9–13*

<sup>9</sup>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? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. <sup>12</sup>May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. <sup>13</sup>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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



*Stand*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

*Revelation 22:20*

Alleluia.

He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

## **Gospel**

*Luke 21:25-36*

<sup>25</sup>“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. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

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

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

<sup>34</sup>“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. <sup>35</sup>For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

# 301 Savior of the Nations, Come

CW 301

(Please rise for the final stanza.)



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's  
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, by the  
3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child of the  
4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came and as -  
5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O  
Spir - it of our God was the Word of  
vir - gin un - de - filed, though by all the  
cend - ed to the same, cap - tive lead - ing  
God the Son, our King, praise to God the



heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
God made flesh, wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
world dis - owned, yet to be in heav'n en - throned!  
death and hell. High the song of tri - umph swell!  
Spir - it be ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–1876, alt.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; Ambrose of Milan, 340–397, abr.  
Tune: Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon Text – Luke 21:25-36

## Sermon Theme – "Living Ready for Christ's Return"

1. Recognize the Signs of the Times (verses 25-26)
2. Trust the Promise of the Son of Man's Coming (verses 27-28)
3. Learn from the Fig Tree (verses 29-33)
4. Live in Watchfulness and Prayer (verses 34-36)

Stand

## **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.**

## **Our Offering to the Lord**

*Please place your offerings in the basket at the back of church.*

*Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:*

*<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.*

## Prayer of the Church

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

**Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.**

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

**Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

**Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.**

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

**Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.**

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends.

Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

**Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.**

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. [Pour out your special blessing on . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

**Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

### *Silent prayer*

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.  
**In Jesus' name we pray. 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 Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

# 327 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

CW 327 sts. 1, Ref

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly  
ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The first three staves contain the main melody with lyrics. The fourth staff is the start of the refrain, and the fifth staff continues it. The lyrics are: "1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear." The refrain lyrics are: "Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!"

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent., Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Tune: French, 15th cent., alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

### Setting Four from Christian Worship

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## **"Our Mission Statement"**

### **(Our Purpose as a Church)**

Our mission here at St. Philip's Lutheran is outlined for us in Matthew 28:19: 'Go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them and baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.' Making disciples includes proclaiming God's Word in its truth and purity, strengthening the faith of those under our care, and reaching out to the people of our community, (including our unchurched friends and relatives).  
Let us pray for and work together toward this goal.



### **St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School**

[www.stphilipsmilwaukee.com](http://www.stphilipsmilwaukee.com)

3012 N. Holton St.

Milwaukee, WI 53212

414 263-7614

[splsoffice@stphilipsmilwaukee.com](mailto:splsoffice@stphilipsmilwaukee.com)

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

[www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

### **Serving at Worship**

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

**Lay Reader**

Thomas McNeal

**Organ**

Nicole Cottman

### **In Our Prayers**

Judi Tevich

Kitty Henderson

Natasha McCants

Melvin Reed

Glen & Beth Thompson

Mary Hampton's niece

**Next Week: December 8, 2024**

**Lay Reader:** Thomas McNeal

**Praise Band Leads Worship**

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S**

### **Saturday, December 7    Special Congregational Meeting 10AM-12PM**

St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church's confirmed members are invited, and strongly encouraged, to attend a very important meeting.

The primary purpose of this meeting

To get congregational input on the best path forward for our school.

Can we support the mission and vision of our school?

\*\*\*We will get information regarding: our school's mission and vision, staffing, enrollment, budget, etc.

\*\*\*We plan to have an open and honest discussion regarding:

1. The many blessings of our Christian day school. (What has been going well)
2. The ongoing needs of our Christian day school such as staffing, budget, enrollment, etc. (Can our congregation meet those needs?)
3. The "Grace in Action" committee objectives. (Are we meeting the deadlines? Do we need more congregational participation?)
4. Anything else pertinent to our primary meeting's purpose.

The primary goal (hoped for outcome) of this important meeting:

To have St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church prayerfully decide on a clear, God-pleasing direction for the future of our school and its ministry.

**Sunday, December 8**

**Bible Class 9:30AM**

**Worship with communion 10:30AM**

**Praise Band leads worship**



**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**Thursday, December 19      School Children Christmas Service 6:00PM**

**Sunday, December 22      Christmas Carol Song Service  
Church Christmas Party follows worship**

**Wednesday, December 25      Christmas Day Worship 9:30AM**

**DECEMBER CALENDAR AND TEXT SHEET ARE INCLUDED WITH TODAY'S BULLETIN.**



**CANDY BAGS**

We would once again like to fill candy bags to give to the children after their Christmas program in December. We need cash donations to help cover the cost of the candy and other items. Please mark your donation “candy bags” and place your gift in the offering box at church or turn in at the school office. We will also gladly accept donations of the following items: Apples, Oranges, individually wrapped Candy and Candy Canes. All donations should be brought in by December 9<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!



*Where Success Means More*

**WLHS Winter Chamber Ensembles Concert**—Everyone is invited to the winter chamber ensemble concert on Thursday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Wisconsin Lutheran High School. A variety of genres, including popular, jazz, and familiar Christmas season tunes will be performed by small instrumental ensembles, Jubilation Handbells, One Accord, and the Wisco Kids Show Choir. Seating is general admission with a free-will door offering. The concert will also be livestreamed at [wlhs.org/livestream](http://wlhs.org/livestream).

**WLHS Christmas Market**—Everyone is invited to the WLHS Christmas Market on Saturday, December 7, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. in the WLHS Atrium. Handcrafted items such as ornaments, jewelry, canned goods, and more will be for sale. Maker stations for creating your own crafts will also be available.

**WLHS Winter Band Concert**—The Wisconsin Lutheran High School band department will present their Winter Concert on Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Everyone is welcome to attend. The concert will also be livestreamed at [wlhs.org/livestream](http://wlhs.org/livestream).

**WLHS Job Opening: Director of Alumni Relations**—Wisconsin Lutheran High School is looking to hire a director of alumni relations to work in the mission advancement office. This position is responsible for nurturing alumni engagement through volunteering, events, and financial support. Experience in fundraising is a plus. Interested candidates should submit a resume to [hr@wlhs.org](mailto:hr@wlhs.org).

**WLHS Job Opening: Attendance Office Assistant**—Wisconsin Lutheran High School is looking to hire an Attendance Office Assistant. This position is staffed when school is in session. This person is responsible for ensuring that student attendance is properly recorded in the system, speaking with parents regarding student absences, interacting with students and teachers and enforcing attendance policies. If you are interested in this position, please submit a resume to [hr@wlhs.org](mailto:hr@wlhs.org).

**St. Philip's Lutheran Church & School**

**Pastor Raymond Kimbrough**

**3012 N Holton Street**

**Milwaukee, WI 53212**

**Church: 414-263-1373**

**Cell Phone: 414-254-6093**

**TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS**

*This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person. May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.*

*If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to call on the pastor at any time.*

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

*St. Philip's congregation supports and maintains a Christian Day School for the thorough training of the whole child. We want each child to know, not only how to deal with this life, but to know their Savior and prepare for eternal life. The school is called St. Philip's Lutheran School and is located at 3012 N. Holton Street.*

**School Office Phone: 414-263-7614**

**Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373**

**Church Service – 10:30AM**

**Bible Class – 9:30AM**