

# Μεσσίας

Sunday, December 7, 2025  
Second Sunday of Advent



## ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

*During the Prelude, you are invited to meditate on the Psalm of the Day as you prepare your heart and mind for worship.*

### Welcome and Gathering Prayer

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

### Psalm of the Day

Psalm 20:6-9

Now this I know:

The Lord gives victory to his anointed.

He answers him from his heavenly sanctuary  
with the victorious power of his right hand.

Some trust in chariots and some in horses,  
but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.

They are brought to their knees and fall,  
but we rise up and stand firm.

Lord, give victory to the king!

Answer us when we call!

### Prelude

Prelude in C Major BWV 567

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

### Introit

"This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made"

IPC Singers

Music: Johann Crüger

Chandler Cudlipp, Director

### Call to Worship – Advent Candle Lighting

Cupples Family

Leader: Today we light the candle of peace. Jesus is the Prince of Peace. Our feet need to be ready to spread peace as we serve the Prince of Peace.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be peace for the throne of David and his kingdom." (Isaiah 9:6-7)

(Prayer) Leader: Dear Father of peace and love, we thank you for giving us peace by sending your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ, into the world. We pray that your Spirit will prepare our hearts for the arrival of the Prince of Peace. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

#8 “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

### **Prayer of Confession**

Nathan Wannemacher

Leader: Gracious God, in Jesus, the Messiah, you have revealed to us the world's savior and judge.

Forgive us for when we choose to embrace the either/or of his identity instead of the both/and.

**People: Through your Holy Spirit, help us to see, Jesus, the Messiah, for all of who he truly is. In his Name we pray. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon – Titus 3:3-7**

Leader: At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

**People: He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.**

### **God's Gracious Will for Our Lives – Titus 2:11-14; 3:14**

Leader: For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

**People: Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives.**

## **\*Gloria Patri**

#579 “Glory Be to the Father”

## **RECEIVING THE WORD OF GOD**

### **Song**

“Come, Holy Savior, Come”

Traditional

Arr. Anna Laura Page & Jean Anne Shafferman

Children’s Choir

Christine Weeks, Director

Janet Deden, Piano

### **Children’s Message**

Nathan Wannemacher

### **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 53:7, 59:17-18 (pp. 742, 748)

Pranay Richard

### **New Testament Reading**

John 4:19-26 (p. 1067)

### **Sermon**

“Jesus, the Messiah of Salvation and Judgement”

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

### **\*Hymn of Response**

#6 “Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending”

## **PROFESSING WHAT WE BELIEVE**

### **\*The Apostles’ Creed**

**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 Pilate, 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.**

# **GATHERING AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

## **Invitation**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Leader: With joy we praise you, gracious God...

## **Words of Institution**

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament saying:

**People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## **Prayer of Consecration**

Leader: Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit...

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray saying:

## **The 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. Amen.**

## **The Bread and the Cup**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

# **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

## **Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings**

Tariq Dennison, Treasurer

## **Offertory**

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

IPC Singers

Words: Bishop Phillips Brooks

Music: Traditional English Tune, arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

## **\*Doxology**

#592 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

# OFFERING OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

## GOING WITH GOD'S MISSION AND BLESSING

Welcoming Visitors & Announcements

Tariq Dennison

**\*Hymn of Dedication**

#1 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

**\*Sending and Benediction**

Rev. Mark W. van Stee

**Choral Benediction**

"May the Grace of the Lord"

IPC Singers

Music: Ken Barker

**Postlude**

Fugue in F Major BWV 540

Ruth Pfister, Organ

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Please remain quietly seated during the postlude. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.*

---

***\*Please stand if you are able.***

*Today's bulletin cover features the Greek word for Messiah as found in the ancient manuscripts of the New Testament.*