



# Advent 2025



The Miracles of Christmas

#### **OPENING PRAYER:**

Pastor: O Lord, through Your holy word You gladden Your people with the anticipation of our redemption. Give us Your Holy Spirit so that we may by faith joyfully receive Your Son as our Redeemer that He might give us the right to be called children of God and heirs of heaven. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**HYMN:** "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

Let the earth now praise the Lord.
Who hath truly kept His word
And the sinners' Help and Friend
Now at last to us doth send.

What the fathers most desired, What the prophet's heart inspired, What they longed for many a year, Stands fulfilled in glory here.

Abram's promised great Reward, Zion's Helper, Jacob's Lord--Him of two-fold race behold--Truly came, as long foretold.

Welcome, O my Savior, now! Hail! My Portion, Lord, art Thou. Here, too, in my heart, I pray, Oh, prepare Thyself a way! As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The old man all be put away,
The new man now put on.

All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever One
Through all eternity.
Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

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

# The Miracles of Christmas

December 3December 10December 17Text: Galatians 4:4-5Text: John 3:16Text: Isaiah 53:4-5The Miracle ofThe Miracle ofThe Miracle ofThe MomentThe MessageThe Method

## THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

## PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**HYMN:** "The Advent of Our King"

The advent of our King
Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son
Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.

O Zion's Daughter, rise
To meet thy lowly King,
Nor let thy faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.

King of Glory, enter in; Cleanse it from the filth of sin, As Thou hast so often done; It belongs to Thee alone.

#### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

### **RESPONSIVE READING:**

Pastor: The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

Cong: They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good.

Pastor: God looks down from heaven on the children of

man

Cong: To see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

Pastor: They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt;

Cong: There is none who does good, not even one.

Pastor: Have those who work evil no knowledge, who

eat up my people as they eat bread,

Cong: And do not call upon God?

Pastor: There they are, in great terror,

Cong: where there is no terror!

Pastor: For God scatters the bones of him who en-

camps against you; you put them to shame,

Cong: For God has rejected them.

HYMN

Cong: When God restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

## **SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 1:1-11**

(ESV) The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (2) As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, (3) the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," (4) John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (5) And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. (6) Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. (7) And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. (8) I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (9) In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. (10) And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. (11) And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's son, make here Thy home! Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood By the Spirit of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh--Woman's Offspring, pure and fresh.

Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child Of the Virgin undefiled! Tho' by all the world disowned, Still to be in heav'n enthroned.

From the Father forth He came And returneth to the same, Captive leading death and hell--High the song of triumph swell!

Thou the Father's only Son,
Hast o'er sin the victory won.
Boundless shall Thy kingdom be;
When shall we its glories see?

**SERMON:** The following series will be the focus of our meditations for the mid-week Advent services.