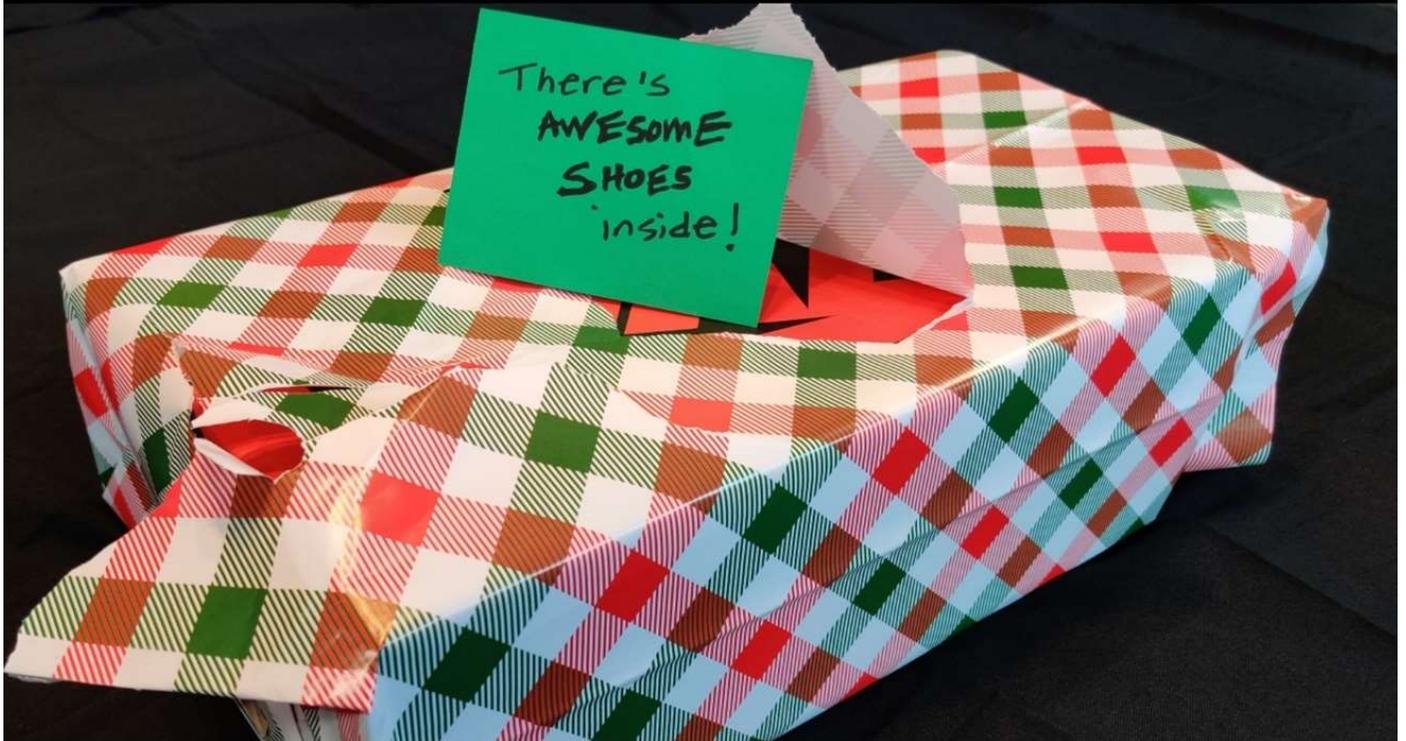


# NARRATIVE LECTIONARY—YEAR 1—WEEK 14 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



**“WHY WOULD YOU TELL ME WHAT’S IN  
THE WRAPPED UP CHRISTMAS PRESENT?”**

**THE PROPHET ISAIAH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022**

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# NARRATIVE LECTIONARY

FOLLOWING THE SWEEP OF SCRIPTURE  
FROM CREATION TO CHRIST TO THE EARLY CHURCH



## ***ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:***

SUE & MURIEL SCHMIDTKE IN LOVING MEMORY OF TED SCHMIDTKE



### ***ADVENT PROPHETS***

*This service draws from readings often used for the weeks of Advent, the Old Testament prophets who pointed to the first Advent of Jesus, His birth, and His Second Advent still to come.*

#### ***Entrance Words and Invocation***

*based on Jeremiah 33:14-16*

P: “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD.

**C: *When He will fulfill the promise He made to all of His people.***

P: In those days and at that time

the LORD will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David.

**C: *That Branch is a son of David. That Branch is Jesus, the Son of God.***

P: The Branch shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**C: *In those days the LORD’s people will be saved  
and His Church will dwell securely.***

P: And this is the name by which the Church will be called:

**C: *The LORD is our righteousness.***

P: What does that name mean?

**C: *We, His people, are righteous through His righteousness.  
We are holy because He makes us holy through His Son.***

P: Let us remember our baptisms,

when the Lord became our righteousness...

in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: *Amen!***



## **Preparation for God's Word**

based on Malachi 3:1-7b

P: "Behold, I send my messenger

and he will prepare the way before me," says the Lord.

**C: This is John the Baptist who announced that the Messiah is Jesus.**

P: Shall we rejoice that the LORD has sent His messenger,  
that the Messiah Jesus has come into our midst?

**C: Yes, we shall rejoice; but our sin causes us to fear His coming.**

P: The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

**C: But who can endure the day of his coming,  
and who can stand when he appears?**

**For he is like a refiner's fire**

**burning away the worthless material in us.**

**He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,  
and he will purify us from all our sin.**

P: And the LORD declares to you today

that His mercies are new every morning. He says:

"I the LORD do not change;

therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

From the days of your fathers

you have turned aside from my statutes

and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you,"

says the LORD of hosts.

Your LORD has drawn you back to Himself

through His Son, Jesus.

You have returned to the LORD

through the work of the Holy Spirit.

You have returned and find forgiveness for all of your sins

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

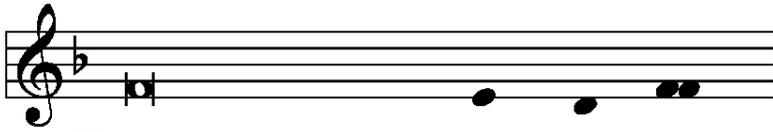
**C: Amen.**

P: And this is the name by which the Church will be called:

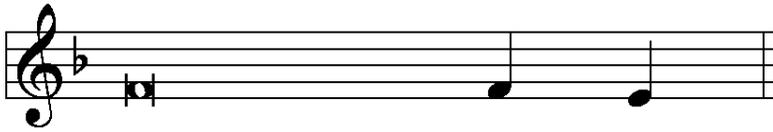
**C: The LORD is our righteousness. Amen.**

**Versicles**

(Advent)



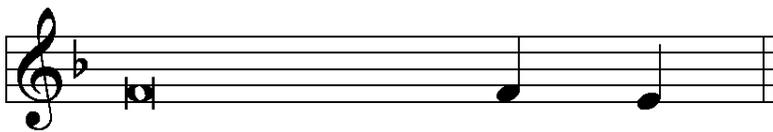
**L** The Spirit and the Church cry out:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



**L** All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



**L** The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.

**Anthem**

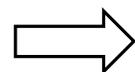
**The King Shall Come**

**Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,  
 When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.  
 Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die.  
 But crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,  
 When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes,  
 O brighter than that glorious morn shall this fair morning be,  
 When Christ our King in beauty comes, and we his face shall see.



*The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.  
The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings;  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly King of Kings,  
Come quickly King of Kings, come quickly King of Kings.*

**Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading**

**Isaiah 42:1-9 (ESV)**

[And the LORD declares]:

<sup>1</sup>“Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my Spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be discouraged  
till he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his law.”

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people on it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup>“I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
I will take you by the hand and keep you;  
I will give you as a covenant for the people,  
a light for the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

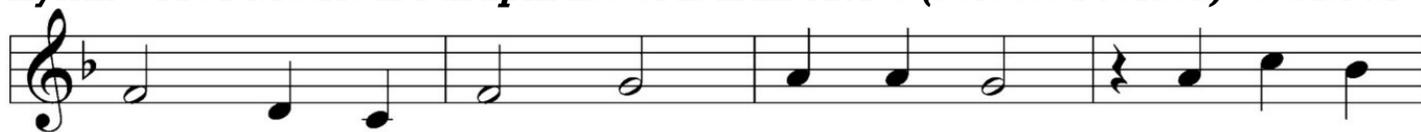
<sup>8</sup>I am the LORD; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

<sup>9</sup>Behold, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn - 1781 Metrical Paraphrase of Isaiah 42:1-9 (selected verses)** tune: LSB 812



1 Be - hold my Ser - vant! see him rise ex - al - ted  
 2 Gen - tle and still shall be his voice, the weak he'll  
 3 I will burst their i - ron shack - les to bring my  
 4 Lo! for - mer scenes, pre - dict - ed once, clear - ly now



in my might! Him have I cho - sen  
 not de - spise; Judg - ment he shall bring  
 lib - er - ty; To give the Gen - tile  
 rise to view; And fu - ture scenes, pre -



and in him I place su - preme de - light.  
 forth to truth, and make the fall - en rise.  
 na - tions light, and set the pris' - ners free.  
 dict - ed now, shall be ac - com - plish'd too.

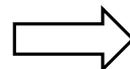
First published by the Church of Scotland in 1781. Adapted here by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires (2022).

**Another Version of Today's Reading**

**Isaiah 42:1-9 (MSG)**

[And GOD declares]: <sup>1-4</sup> "Take a good look at my servant. I'm backing him to the hilt. He's the one I chose, and I couldn't be more pleased with him. I've bathed him with my Spirit, my *life*. He'll set everything right among the nations. He won't call attention to what he does with loud speeches or gaudy parades. He won't brush aside the bruised and the hurt and he won't disregard the small and insignificant, but he'll steadily and firmly set things right. He won't tire out and quit. He won't be stopped until he's finished his work—to set things right on earth. Far-flung ocean islands wait expectantly for his teaching."

<sup>5-9</sup> [THIS IS] GOD's Message, the God who created the cosmos, stretched out the skies, laid out the earth and all that grows from it, Who breathes life into earth's people, makes them alive with his own life: "I am GOD. I have called you to live right and well.



I have taken responsibility for you, kept you safe.  
 I have set you among my people to bind them to me,  
 and provided you as a lighthouse to the nations,  
 To make a start at bringing people into the open, into light:  
 opening blind eyes, releasing prisoners from dungeons, emptying the dark prisons.  
 I am GOD. That's my name. I don't franchise my glory, I don't endorse the no-god idols.  
 Take note: The earlier predictions of judgment have been fulfilled.  
 I'm announcing the new salvation work.  
 Before it bursts on the scene, I'm telling you all about it."

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Song of Praise**

**Emmanuel**

Em-mam - u - el, - - Em-man - u - el, - - his name is called -  
 - Em - man - u - el. - - God with us, - - re - vealed in  
 us, - - his name is called - - Em - man - u - el.

**Introit (Entrance Verses) for Today**

*Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon (repeated verse): Isaiah 64:1*

P: Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,

**C: that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

P: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

**C: and in his word I hope;**

P: my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,

**C: more than watchmen for the morning.**

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD!

**C: For with the LORD there is steadfast love,**

P: and with him is plentiful redemption.

**C: And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

**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.**

P: Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,

**C: that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

**Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, through the prophet Isaiah, You continued the prophetic pattern of teaching Your people the true faith and demonstrating through miracles Your presence in creation to heal it of its brokenness. Grant that Your Church may see in Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the final end-times prophet whose teaching and miracles continue in Your Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

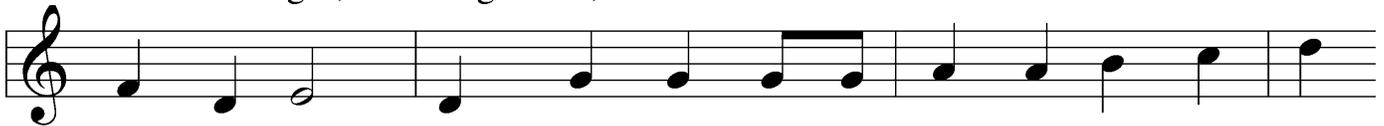
**Hymn of the Day**

**Sing Praise to the God of Israel**

LSB 936



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His  
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on  
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His  
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,  
oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:  
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,  
lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a  
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -  
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and  
And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!  
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.  
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.  
foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955 Tune: Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842

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## Children's Message



## Sermon

**“Why Would You Tell Me  
What’s in the Wrapped Up  
Christmas Present?”**

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

## Confession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.—And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

## Apostles' Creed

## Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

## Offertory

## Breathe On Me, Breath of God

UMH 420

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)

Breathe on me, breath of God,  
Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
fill me with life a - new, that I may love what thou dost love,  
so shall I nev - er die, but live with thee the per - fect life  
and do what thou wouldst do.  
of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

## Prayers

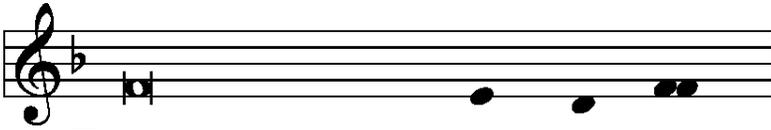
### The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

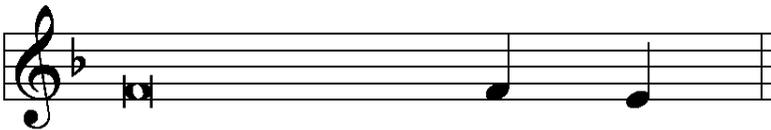
**All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### Versicles

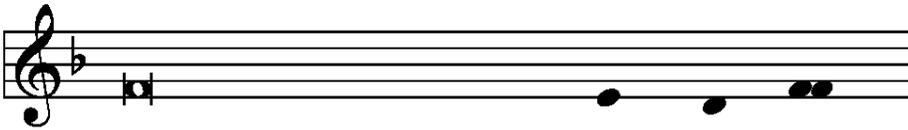
(Advent)



**L** The Spirit and the Church cry out:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



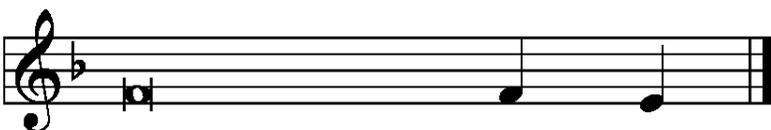
**L** All those who await His ap - pear - ance pray:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.



**L** The whole cre - a - tion pleads:



**C** Come, Lord Je - sus.

## **Benediction**

based on Micah 5:2-5a

P: Jesus shall stand and shepherd his flock  
in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And you, His flock, shall dwell secure,  
for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth.  
And He shall be your peace.  
The almighty and merciful Lord,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
bless you and always watch over you.

C: Amen.

## **Closing Hymn**

### **Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord**

LSB 352 sts. 1-3



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly  
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,



kept His word And at last to us did send  
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,  
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620-59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

## **Announcements**

### **Acknowledgments**

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.  
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