



Advent Wednesday Evenings

I want to walk as a child of the light. I'm not so sure we do. Truth be told we like the darkness quite a bit. There is a certain familiarity with the darkness. And there isn't anything worth following, there isn't anything worth committing to, there isn't anything worth sacrificing for, worth dying for. So we Follow ourselves. At least we can trust ourselves. And we continue "to walk as a child of the dark."

...until one day someone comes along and says, "come and see." That happen to Nathanael in John's Gospel account. Jesus called Philip. "Follow me" he said and Philip did. And Philip found Nathanael and said, "Come and see, Jesus". And he did. And Nathanael saw Jesus and said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel."

Seeing in John's gospel is more than just with your eyes. It is the seeing of faith that sees Jesus as the Son of God and savior. So how do we witness to this world and its following of false and empty gods and promises? Like Philip we say, Come and see. Faith comes not by proofs or argument. Faith comes by hearing. Come and hear. Come and see. And then ...walk as a child of the light. In him is no darkness at all.

-Todd Riordan

Welcome

Silent Prayer

Please stand.

☞ The Spirit and the Church cry out: **☩ Come, Lord Jesus.**

All those who await His appearance pray: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

The whole creation pleads: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Hymn

O Light Whose Splendor | **891**

Thanksgiving for Light

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation and we, your creatures, glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Please sit.

Evening Psalm

[Psalm 141:1-10]

O LORD, I call upon you; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to you!

**Let my prayer be counted at incense before you,
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!**

Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!

**Do not let my heart incline to any evil,
to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity,
and let me not eat of their delicacies!**

Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness;
let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it.
Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds,

**When their judges are thrown over the cliff,
then they shall hear my words, for they are pleasant.**

As when one plows and break up the earth,
so shall our bones be scattered at the mouth of Sheol.

**But my eyes are toward you, O GOD, my Lord;
in you I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless!**

Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me and from the snares of evildoers!

Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I pass by safely.

Collect

Let us pray. Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever. **Amen.**

Hymn

November 30 – LSB **346** When All the World Was Cursed

December 7 – LSB **341** Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

December 14 – LSB **334** O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

December 21 – LSB **332** Savior of the Nations, Come

Please stand

Readings—*Come and See*

Nov 30 | Andrew—Christ Gives Us Eyes to See | *Ezekiel 3:16-21; John 1:35-42*

Dec 7 | Phillip and Nathanael—Calling Friends and Family to see Jesus

Proverbs 3:1-8; John 1:43-51

Dec 14 | The World Refuses to See | *2 Kings 19:14-20; John 9:1-41*

Dec 21 | Thomas—Seeing by Believing | *Judges 6:36-40; John 20:24-39*

O Lord, have mercy on us. **Thanks be to God.**

In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

Annunciation/Magnificat

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will"...

All:
1., 3. My _____ soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y
great - ness, O God, and my spir - it re - joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of
you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with
ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through. *
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.
Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,
strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,
How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,
hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

Please stand

The Prayers

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.

For Matthew and Richard, for all pastors, in Christ, especially
Todd, Bill and Richard, for all servants of the Church, and for all
people, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For Joseph, for all public servants, for the government and those
who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in
every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and
protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in
this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all
the people here present who await from the Lord great and
abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the
earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and
need, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For _____... let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are with
Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord: **Alleluia.**

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

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us
commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to
Christ, our Lord: **To You, O Lord.**

Collect for Peace

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels,
and all just works, give us, Your servants, that peace which
the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your
commandments and also that we, being defended from the
fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through
Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to
pray: **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.** [Matt 6:9-13]

Please stand.

Sending

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the
Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**

Hymn -O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

November 30 – LSB **357 (1, 2, 3)**

December 7 – LSB **357 (1, 3, 4)**

December 14 – LSB **357 (1, 4, 5)**

December 21 – LSB **357 (1, 5, 6, 7)**

*We share the peace of the Lord with one another. Please place offering &
completed pew cards in the basket at the door.*

Postlude

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