

# ADVENT I

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014**

Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church  
3232 West Point Rd. Middleton, WI  
Church of the Lutheran Confession  
PASTOR: Mark H. Bernthal (233-2244)  
TEACHER: Ms. Claire Abbas  
ORGANIST: Mrs. Gail Schaefer

## **BEHOLD YOUR GOD**

**PRE-SERVICE PREPARATION:** Psalm 42

**HYMN 61 :** “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People”

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you. \*

**C: And with you, His servant.**

P: Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the LORD.

**C: With hearts uplifted thanks to Him we render:**

**With joy we come before Him,**

**In gratefulness implore Him,**

**With thankful hearts adore Him Evermore!**

\* To the melody of "O Come All Ye Faithful"

## **THE CONFESSION OF SINS**

**P:** It is written: “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the Truth is not in us.”

**C: “But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”**

**P:** “If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us.”

**C: “If anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous.”**

**P:** “He Himself is the propitiation for our sins,

**C: and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”**

**ALL:** *Jesus came, the heav’ns adoring, came with peace from realms on high; Jesus came for man’s redemption, lowly came on earth to die; Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility!*

**P:** Let us confess our sins and seek God’s mercy in Christ.

**ALL:** **Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving-kindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot**

out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin, For I acknowledge my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I  
sinned, and done this evil in Your sight. Purge me with hyssop,  
and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

*ALL: Jesus comes again in mercy when our hearts are bowed with  
care; Jesus comes again in answer to an earnest, heart-felt prayer;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Came to save us from despair.*

### **THE ABSOLUTION**

P: It is written: "In this the Love of God was manifested toward us, that  
God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might  
live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He  
loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. This  
is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in  
His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son  
of God does not have life." Dear Christians, through faith in  
the perfect life and innocent death of Jesus Christ, all your sins have  
been forgiven. Let us not think of this forgiveness as a reason to sin,  
but to give thanks unto our gracious God for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*ALL: Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, bringing news of sins forgiv'n;  
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, leading souls redeemed to heav'n.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Now the gate of death is riv'n.*

**Scripture Readings:** 2 Corinthians 5:14-21  
John 10:22-30

**Confession of Faith:** Apostles' Creed, page 12

**Hymn 494:** "Awake, Thou Spirit, Who Didst Fire"  
**Midweek Sermon Series: BEHOLD YOUR GOD....**  
**Behold and Tell**  
Text: Isaiah 40:9-11

### **OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS**

**HYMN 99:** "Now Are the Days Fulfilled"

**ADVENT PRAYER            LORD'S PRAYER**  
**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN 554 (1, 5, 6):** "Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow"  
**SILENT PRAYER            ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## **PEACE THRU CHRIST LUTHERAN WELCOMES YOU**

A heartfelt welcome to all in the name of Jesus Christ. May our Advent preparation lead us to worship and adore our Savior and King! Please come again next Wednesday as we continue our Advent worship of our coming Savior.

### **ADVENT THEME: Behold, Your God!**

1. Behold and Shine-- Isaiah 40:9-11 (Pastor Paul Krause)
2. Behold and Marvel---Isaiah 9:6-7 (Pastor Bernthal)
3. Behold and Tell---Isaiah 60:1ff (Pastor David Ude)

**THANK YOU:** to Pastor Paul Krause for bringing us the message of our Savior's great love for us. We pray the Lord grant Pastor Krause a safe trip home and give to him and his family a blessed Christmas.

### **Scripture Readings**

#### **2 Corinthians 5:14-21**

For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. 16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

#### **John 10:22-30**

Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. 23 And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. 24 Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." 25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. 26 "But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. 27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28

"And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 "My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand. 30 "I and *My* Father are one."

**Sermon Text:**

**Isaiah 40:9-11**

O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain;  
O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift *it* up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" 10 Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong *hand*, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His work before Him. 11 He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry *them* in His bosom, *And* gently lead those who are with young.