

The First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2023

Hymn of Invocation # 387

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.; Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Kyrie

To the tune New Britain (“Amazing Grace”)

Look down in mercy on us, Lord.
Receive our prayers and praise,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word,
For your amazing grace.

Text: Jaroslav Vajda, Music: *Columbian Harmony*, © 1990 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: One License, no. 728607-A.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us confess our sin to God:
O Lord, merciful Father, you keep covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments.
- C** **We confess that we have not listened to your servants the prophets. We have not heeded your law nor have we rejoiced in your gospel. We confess that things have fallen apart.**
But Lord, you keep covenant even when we do not. Your love is steadfast when ours is frail and fallible. You are faithful even when we are faithless. We want you to be our God and we want to be your covenant people. Grant us the gift of faith.
By your Holy Spirit work in us steadfastness and singleness of heart, that we might manifest your love in the keeping of your commandments and the living of your gospel.
- P** O Lord, merciful Father, hear our prayers in the name of your well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the mediator of the new and eternal covenant, to whom be glory forever and ever.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Because of Jesus, God has forgiven all our sin. Hear the gospel of Christ from Romans 5:
"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."
- C** **Amen.**

Reflection on God's Forgiveness

Romans 5:8-11

- P** God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- C** **Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.**
- P** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.
- C** **More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.**
-

Service of the Word

Psalm

Psalm 148

- P** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph like a flock!
You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
- C** **Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
stir up your might
and come to save us!**
- P** Restore us, O God;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- C** **O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**
- P** You have fed them with the bread of tears
and given them tears to drink in full measure.
- C** **You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh among themselves.**
- P** Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved!
- C** **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.**

Gloria

To the tune Mendelssohn ("Hark the Herald Angels Sing")

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"
God who flung the stars in space, God who formed the human race,
God the mind and God the cause, God the source of nature's laws,
God of wisdom, pow'r, and love, God of gods, all gods above.
Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"
God who saw your creatures fall, loved them still, and loved them all,
Gave your only Son to prove what is mercy, what is love;
And the Spirit, given free, recreates your family.
Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

Text: Jaroslav Vajda, Music: Felix Mendelssohn, © 1990 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: One License, no. 728607-A.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1–9

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries,
and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome things that we did not look for,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From of old no one has heard
or perceived by the ear,
no eye has seen a God besides you,
who acts for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness,
those who remember you in your ways.
Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;
in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls upon your name,
who rouses himself to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD,
and remember not iniquity forever.
Behold, please look, we are all your people.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn

Lord from Sorrows Deep I Call (Psalm 42)



Lord, from sor-rows deep I call when my hope is shak - en;
 Storms with - in my trou-bled soul, ques - tions with - out an - swers;
 Should my life be torn from me, ev - 'ry world - ly plea - sure;



torn and ru - ined from the fall, hear my des - pe - ra - tion.
 on my faith these bil - lows roll, God be now my shel - ter.
 when all I pos - sess is grief, God be then my trea - sure.



For so long I've pled and prayed, "God come to my res - cue!"
 Why are you cast down my soul? Hope in Him who saves you.
 Be my vi - sion in the night; be my hope and re - fuge.



E - ven so, the thorn re - mains; still my heart will praise You.
 When the fires have all grown cold, cause this heart to praise You.
 'Til my faith is turned to sight, Lord my heart will praise You.

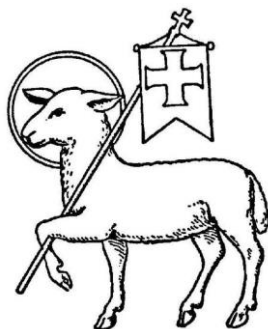


Oh, my soul, put your hope in God, my help, my rock, I will praise Him.



Sing, oh, sing, through the rag - ing storm; You're still my God, my sal - va - tion.

Tune: Matt Boswell; Matt Papa; Tune: © 2018 Getty Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734



Holy Gospel

Mark 11:1–10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Credo

To the tune St Denio (“Immortal, Invisible”)

Great God, our Creator, from whom all receive
Their being and blessing, in you we believe.
Almighty, all-knowing, all-gracious, all-true,
Provider and Father, our trust is in you.

And you, Jesus Christ, we affirm as our Lord,
True son of the Father, by angels adored;
Redeemer incarnate, you paid for our sins,
And, joined in your rising, our new life begins.

Free Spirit of wisdom and power and love,
On us, as on Christ, you descend from above;
You call us, you cleanse us, you open our eyes,
You keep us in peace, you restore paradise.

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Sermon

Offering

Please take a moment to sign and pass the "Record of Friendship" booklet or use the QR code located on the inside cover of the booklet.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Nicene Creed

- C** I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing...

Sanctus

To the tune Nicaea ("Holy, Holy, Holy")

"Holy, holy, holy!" all the saints in glory
Fill your temple with their song around your golden throne;
"Holy, holy, holy!" with them we adore Thee;
God in three persons, all in Christ as one.

Text: Jaroslav Vajda, Music: John B. Dykes, © 1990 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: One License, no. 728607-A.

Lord's Prayer

- C** **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

To the tune Olivet ("My Faith Looks Up to Thee")

Meek, slaughtered lamb of God, Bearing the sinners' load To buy our peace: Now risen and enthroned, With life and glory crowned, To all the lost and found Please grant your peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda; Text: © 1990 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

Distribution

Distribution Hymn # 570

Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am, and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871; Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68; Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn # 550

Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
 2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
 scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
 brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
 rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

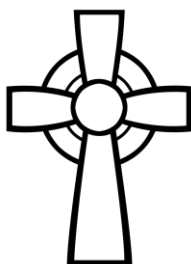


O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958; Text and tune: © 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220



Distribution Hymn

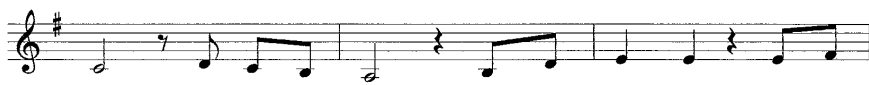
Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted



Come ye souls by sin a - flic - ted, Bowed with fruit - less, sor - row
Take His ea - sy yoke and wear it; Love will make your o - be - dience
Bless - ed are the eyes that see Him, Bless the ears that hear His
Sweet as home to pil - grims wea - ry, Light to new - ly o - pened



down; By the bro - ken law con - vic - ted, Through the
sweet; Christ will give you strength to bear it, While His
voice; Bless - ed are the souls that trust Him, And in
eyes, Like full springs in de - serts drea - ry Is the



cross, be - hold the crown; Look to Je - sus, Look to
grace shall guide your feet Safe to glo - ry, Safe to
Him a - lone re - joice; His comm - and - ments, His comm -
rest the cross sup - plies. All who taste it, All who



Je - sus, look to Je - sus; Mer - cy flows through Him a - lone.
glo - ry, Safe to glo - ry, Where His ran - somed cap - tives meet.
and - ments, His comm - and - ments Then be come their hap - py choice.
taste it, All who taste it Shall to rest im - mor - tal rise.

Tune: Kevin Twit; Tune: © 2013 Kevin Twit Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

The Dismissal



Closing Hymn # 805

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

△ Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The image shows a three-staff musical score in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a triangle symbol (△) above the first note. The second staff ends with a double bar line. The third staff ends with a final double bar line.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711; Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois; Text and tune: Public domain

Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

This Week at-a-Glance

Today

- Worship Service – 9:00 AM
- [Sunday School, 10:45 AM](#)
- [Adult Bible Study, 10:45 AM](#)
- Youth Confirmation 11:45 AM, Downstairs

Wednesday

- [Mens Bible Study](#) 6:30 – 7:30 AM
- [Youth Group](#) – 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Saturday

- Women's Bible Study – 9:00 AM Downstairs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A **Discovering Christianity Class** will begin today, December 3rd, at 6:00 PM. If you're interested in joining St. James, looking to learn more about the Bible and Christianity, or just want to hang out and talk about theology, let Pastor Aaron know."

Family Christmas Breakfast – Mark your calendars for December 17th and join us for St. James' family Christmas Breakfast following the worship service.

Mercy Ministries

Glen-Ed Pantry is currently collecting Fixings for Christmas Dinner Baskets. Please consider donating instant potatoes, gravy mixes, yams, pineapple, canned mixed vegetables or carrots or canned fried onions. If you wish to donate toward the purchase of perishable items such as pies, hams and turkeys please visit www.glenedpantry.org/donors. Thank you

December Ministry Spotlight - [St. James Prayer Team](#) – Did you know St. James has a prayer team? This team is devoted to continually praying for our church family, community, leaders and individual prayer requests. If you would like more information about becoming a part of our prayer team, or if you have an individual prayer request, please don't hesitate to reach out through the church office or at prayer-team@saintjamesglencarbon.org.

St. James Youth Group Christmas Party – All junior and senior high students are invited to join us for our youth Christmas party on Friday, December 15th. For more information, please contact Stacey Staake at stacey@stjamesglencarbon.org.

[Annual Congregational Meeting](#): St. James will hold the annual congregational meeting on Sunday, December 10 at 11:45 AM in the sanctuary. Agendas and Proposed 2024 Budget are available in the church narthex, or by contacting the church office.

Please mark your calendars for the children's Christmas Program which will be on Sunday morning December 17th at the beginning of worship service. Practice will be held during Sunday School for the next three Sundays.

The decorations in the church have been changed to blue to mark the Season of Advent. Advent, a preparatory time of waiting and watching, communicates the message of hope. Blue, the color of the sky, helps convey that powerful message. Our Christian faith rests on the hope that Christ, who came in history assuming our flesh, will also return on the last day of time from that same blue sky he ascended long ago.



Statistical data shows that in the early 1990s, about 90% of American adults identified as Christians. As of 2021 that percentage is now 63%. Do you find that to be alarming? It's the subject of discussion on the most recent episode of [Craving Answers Craving God](#). Check out our bi-weekly podcast and let us know what you think!

In addition to our Sunday morning services, please join us for Mid-week Advent and holiday worship:

Wednesdays – Dec. 6 – Dec 20

Christmas Eve 9:00 AM (No Bible study/Sunday school)

Christmas Eve 11:30 PM

Christmas Day Service – 9:00 AM

St. James Guiding Statement

Together we have found healing and hope in Jesus Christ and welcome others to experience these same Gospel promises.

St. James Mission Pillars

**Healing
Community
Restoration**



[St. James Attendance](#)



SAINT JAMES
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— GLEN CARBON —

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