

## Where Two or Three Are Gathered

### Advent 2021 Year C

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper. (*Sundays and Seasons*)

Advent is a time of reflection and waiting. The mood is sombre and expectant, quiet and excited. Dressing the space for Advent could begin with a few candles, in addition to the Advent wreath. The number of candles could grow as the light of Christ’s birth comes nearer to us.

The colour for the season is blue. Use blue cloth to drape the space, or puddle around the candles.

The wreath might be a ring with candle holders attached, or it could be four individual candles grouped together. There may be greenery collected from your garden or from the neighbourhood adorning the wreath, or arranged around the candles you are using.

You might consider bringing in a bucket of stones that are placed in a jumble for Advent 1 but, each Sunday, the stones are arranged in a more organized way so that they eventually resemble the edges of a path for Advent 4.

There are worship outlines for Service of the Word, when there is not an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament present, and also Service of Holy Communion, when there is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament present.

These worship outlines have been prepared by Lorraine Reinhardt, in consultation with Sundays and Seasons. The primary resource for the service is Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW). I chose Setting 5 because it fits the season well, but if you prefer another setting, you may choose to make that change. There are also suggestions for hymns from All Creation Sings (ACS).

Advent 1 November 28, 2021  
Service of the Word

Light one Advent candle

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 1

**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 244 *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 18

**Word**

First Reading — Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs. 1-4

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Thanksgiving**

Offering

Hymn ELW 247 *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* OR ACS 902 *Come Now, O God*

Thanksgiving for the Word ELW p. 220

Our Father

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** ELW p. 221

Sending Song ELW 257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs. 5-8

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

Advent 2 December 5, 2021  
Service of the Word

Light two Advent candles

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 2

**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 264 *Prepare the Royal Highway*

OR ACS 901 *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 19

**Word**

First Reading — Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm — Luke 1:68-79

Second Reading — Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 3:1-6

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 510 *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Thanksgiving**

Offering

Hymn ELW 262 *Wait for the Lord*

Thanksgiving for the Word ELW p. 220

Our Father

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** ELW p. 221

Sending Song ELW 254 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Advent 3 December 12, 2021

### Service of the Word

Light three Advent candles

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 3

### Gathering

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 267 *Joy to the World*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 19

### Word

First Reading — Zephaniah 3:14-20

Second Reading — Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 3:7-18

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 242 *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

### Thanksgiving

Offering

Hymn ELW 253 *He Came Down* OR ACS 905 *We Are Waiting for Jesus*

Thanksgiving for the Word ELW p. 220

Our Father

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** ELW p.221

Sending Song ELW 551 *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

Advent 4 December 19, 2021  
Service of the Word

Light four Advent candles

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 4

**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 263 *Savior of the Nations, Come*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 20

**Word**

First Reading — Micah 5:2-5a

Second Reading — Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 1:39-55

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 265 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*  
OR ACS 906 *No Wind at the Window*

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Thanksgiving**

Offering

Hymn ELW 279 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*



Thanksgiving for the Word ELW p. 220

Our Father

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** ELW p.221

Sending Song ELW 272 *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

Advent 1 November 28, 2021  
Service of Holy Communion

Light one Advent candle

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 1

**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 244 *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 18

**Word**

First Reading — Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs. 1-4

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Meal**

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** (ELW p. 64)

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 161

Sanctus ELW p. 162

Thanksgiving at the Table ELW p.65 option V

Our Father

Distribution

Hymn ELW 247 *Come Now, O Prince of Peace* OR ACS 902 *Come Now, O God*

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** (ELW p.221)

Sending Song ELW 257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs. 5-8

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

Advent 2 December 5, 2021  
Service of Holy Communion

Light two Advent candles

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 2

**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 264 *Prepare the Royal Highway*

OR ACS 901 *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 19

**Word**

First Reading — Malachi 3:1-4

Psalms — Luke 1:68-79

Second Reading — Philippians 1:3-11

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 3:1-6

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 510 *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Meal**

Offering

## Offering Prayer

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** (ELW p. 64)

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 161

Sanctus ELW p. 162

Thanksgiving at the Table ELW p.65 option V

Our Father

Distribution

Hymn ELW 262 *Wait for the Lord*

## Sending

### Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** (ELW p. 221)

Sending Song ELW 254 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

Advent 3 December 12, 2021  
Service of Holy Communion

Light three Advent candles

Sing or speak the words for ELW 240 *Light One Candle* vs. 3

**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up our hearts, O God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, O God, and open our ears.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

**O come, o come, Emmanuel.**

Gathering Hymn ELW 267 *Joy to the World*

Greeting

Kyrie ELW p. 156

Prayer of the Day ELW p. 19

**Word**

First Reading — Zephaniah 3:14-20

Second Reading — Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 3:7-18

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 242 *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Meal**

Offering

Offering Prayer

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** (ELW p. 64)

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 161

Sanctus ELW p. 162

Thanksgiving at the Table ELW p.65 option V

Our Father

Distribution

Hymn ELW 253 *He Came Down* OR ACS 905 *We Are Waiting for Jesus*

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** (ELW p. 221)

Sending Song ELW 551 *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus is coming.

**Thanks be to God.**

Advent 4 December 19, 2021  
Service of Holy Communion

Light four Advent candles

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**Gathering**

Stir up your power, O Christ, and come.

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Gathering Hymn ELW 263 *Savior of the Nations, Come*

Greeting

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Prayer of the Day ELW p. 20

**Word**

First Reading — Micah 5:2-5a

Second Reading — Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Acclamation ELW 804 *Come Down, O Love Divine* vs. 1 (*spoken or sung*)

Gospel — Luke 1:39-55

Sermon

Hymn of the Day ELW 265 *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*  
OR ACS 906 *No Wind at the Window*

Nicene Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

**Meal**

Offering

Offering Prayer



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Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 161

Sanctus ELW p. 162

Thanksgiving at the Table ELW p.65 option V

Our Father

Distribution

Hymn ELW 279 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

## **Sending**

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** (ELW p. 221)

Sending Song ELW 272 *Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming*

Dismissal

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**Thanks be to God.**