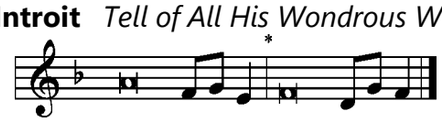
The Second Sunday in Advent
December 6-7, 2025
Divine Service, Setting Three, p. 184

Prelude

Invocation (*stand*) p. 184

Confession and Absolution

Introit *Tell of All His Wondrous Works* Ps. 105:4–8; antiphon: Is. 40:3b



In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;*
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.
Seek the LORD | and his strength;*
seek his presence con- | tinually!
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,*
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!
He is the | LORD our God;*
his judgments are in | all the earth.
He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD;*
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.

Kyrie p. 186
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

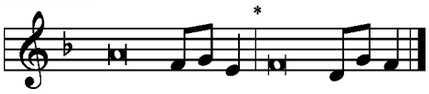
Collect of the Day p. 189
P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
P Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.** (*sit*)

Old Testament *The Righteous Reign of the Branch* Isaiah 11:1–10
[1]There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
[2]And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
[3]And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
[4]but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,

and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
[5]Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
[6]The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
[7]The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
[8]The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
[9]They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

[10]In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—
of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

Gradual Zechariah 9:9a; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*
Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*
From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle *Christ the Hope of Jews and Gentiles* Romans 15:4–13

[4]For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. [5]May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, [6]that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. [7]Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

[8]For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, [9]and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name."

[10]And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

[11]And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him."

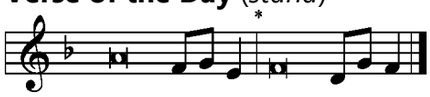
[12]And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope."

[13]May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

Verse of the Day (*stand*) Luke 3:4b, 6



Alleluia. Alleluia.
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight;*
all flesh shall see the salva- | tion of God.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *John the Baptist Prepares the Way* Matthew 3:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[1]In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, [2]"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." [3]For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.'"

[4]Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. [5]Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, [6]and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

[7]But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? [8]Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. [9]And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. [10]Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

[11]"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. [12]His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.** (*sit*)

Hymn of the Day "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" LSB 344, *soloist st. 4*
stand for final stanza

Sermon **"**Hope for the Days Ahead" Romans 15

Apostles' Creed (*stand*) p. 192

Offering (*sit*)

Offertory (*stand*) p. 192

Prayer of the Church *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

Preface p. 194

Distribution (*sit*) "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied" LSB 342

What hope! An Eden prophesied
Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side,
Led by a little child!

A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,
A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:
The fruit of God's design.

As banner of God's love unfurled,
Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world
Would rally to the cross.

Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,
Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—
Come, open heaven's door.

Nunc Dimittis (*stand*) p. 199

Closing Hymn "Prepare the Royal Highway" LSB 343

Postlude

Acknowledgements "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied," text © 1998 Stephen P. Starke; admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense.net, no. A712121. "Prepare the Royal Highway," text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: OneLicense.net, no. A712121. Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.