## TRINITY EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH OF GLENDORA SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT December 8, 2024

## The Song of Zechariah

## 343 Prepare the Royal Highway

- Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
  Let ev'ry hill and valley, A level road appear!
  Then greet the King of Glory, Foretold in sacred story: *Refrain*
- ref Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God's Word!
- God's people, see Him coming: Your own eternal king!
  Palm branches strew before Him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
  God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*
- Then fling the gates wide open, To greet your promised king! Your king, yet ev'ry nation, Its tribute too should bring.

  All lands, bow down before Him! All nations, now adore Him! *Refrain*
- 4 His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav'n above. His rule is peace and freedom, And justice, truth, and love. So let your praise be sounding, For kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

#### Invocation

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

## **Opening Sentences** *Psalm 146:1–2, 5–6, 7b–8, 10*

- P Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
- C I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- P Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- C who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever.
- P The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.
- C The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

## Confession and Absolution Psalm 124:8

- P Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- P In this season of penitence and reflection, let us think of our unworthiness; confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed; and ask for His merciful forgiveness. (Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.)
- C Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.

- P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

# Hymn of Praise

P The text of the next hymn, "Praise to You and Adoration," was written by Thomas Kingo, a Lutheran bishop in Denmark in the seventeenth century. Growing up in a family that had immigrated to Denmark from Scotland, Kingo came to love the language of his new homeland. He had a gift for using common language to convey the truths of the Christian faith and joyfully recounted how God came to earth in the flesh in the person of Jesus, who was among His people, sharing in their laughter and their weeping. Eternally grateful for the incarnation of our Lord, we sing the hymn.

### 692 Praise to You and Adoration



#### Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty Father, by the advent of Your Son into the world, the kingdom of heaven now is open to all who believe in Him. Give us grace to receive the Lord Jesus as our Emmanuel, God with us. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, inspire our praises in this season of blessed expectation. Lead us joyfully to serve Jesus, our Advent King, in our daily lives, so that when He comes again on the Last Day in power and majesty we may, by Your mercy, be gathered into Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and our King.

C Amen.

## Old Testament Reading Exodus 15:1–3

<sup>1</sup>Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. <sup>2</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him. <sup>3</sup>The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is his name.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm Psalm 24

- P The earth is the LORD'S and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,
- C for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.
- P Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in His holy place?
- C He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.
- P Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- C Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- P Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- C Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory! 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.

## **Epistle** *Ephesians 5:15–21*

<sup>15</sup>Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup>making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup>Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. <sup>18</sup>And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, <sup>19</sup>addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, <sup>20</sup>giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup>submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

- L This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

## 386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice st. 1

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice; He from whom joy streameth, Poor in a manger lies; Not so brightly beameth, The sun in yonder skies. Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

#### **Reading** *Luke* 1:67–80

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

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

<sup>67</sup>And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, <sup>8</sup>"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people <sup>69</sup>and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, <sup>70</sup>as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, <sup>71</sup>that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; <sup>72</sup>to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup>the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us <sup>74</sup>that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, <sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. <sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, <sup>77</sup>to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, <sup>78</sup>because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high <sup>79</sup>to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."
<sup>80</sup>And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

- This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

# 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory, Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.
- Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.

- Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor, Daily I'm constrained to be; Let that grace now like a fetter, Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.
- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face; Clothed then in the blood-washed linen, How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace! Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom'd soul away; Send Thine angels soon to carry, Me to realms of endless day.

#### Sermon



## Offering

#### 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come sts. 8, 13

- Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest! You came to share my misery, That You might share Your joy with me.
- Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, A quiet chamber set apart, For You to dwell within my heart.

## The Litany

- P O Lord, C have mercy.
  P O Christ, C have mercy.
- O Lord, C have mercy.
- P O Christ, C hear us.
- God the Father in heaven, C have mercy.
  God the Son, Redeemer of the world, C have mercy.
  God the Holy Spirit, C have mercy.
- P Be gracious to us. C Spare us, good Lord. P Be gracious to us. C Help us, good Lord.
- P From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
  - From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
  - From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
  - From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:
- C Good Lord, deliver us.
- P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
  - By Your Baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
  - By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
- C Help us, good Lord.
- P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
- C Help us, good Lord.
- P We poor sinners implore You
- C to hear us, O Lord.
- P To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;
  - To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;
  - To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- P To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;

To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C we implore You to hear us.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C grant us Your peace.

P O Christ, C hear us.
P O Lord, C have mercy.
P O Christ, C have mercy.
P O Lord, C have mercy. Amen.

# Lord's Prayer

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.

## **Closing Collect**

P Let us pray.

Accept, O almighty Lord, our praise for Your blessed Son, Jesus Christ, who came in the flesh to seek and to save us in our lost condition. Grant that at His second and glorious appearing He may find in us the fruits of the redemption that He has graciously accomplished for us; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

### **Benediction (Aaronic)**

- 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 T give you peace.
- C Amen.

## 341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

- Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here. Life and salvation He doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing. To God the Father raise, Your joyful songs of praise.
- 2 A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot is humility, His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress. The end of all our woe He brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings. To Christ the Savior raise, Your grateful hymns of praise.
- 3 How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed! O peaceful hearts and happy homes, To whom this King in triumph comes! The cloudless sun of joy is He, Who comes to set His people free. To God the Spirit raise, Your happy shouts of praise.
- 4 Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart
  From earthly use for heav'n's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
  So shall your Sov'reign enter in, And new and nobler life begin.
  To God alone be praise, For word and deed and grace!
- Redeemer, come and open wide, My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide! O enter with Thy grace divine; Thy face of mercy on me shine. Thy Holy Spirit guide us on, Until our glorious goal is won. Eternal praise and fame, We offer to Thy name.

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