

# Worship Leader Edition First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Rob*)

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

INVITATION- (*Assistant*)

In a world where so many experience hatred,  
God lights a candle of love in our hearts.  
We wait together for a Saviour,  
who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.  
Hear the word of the Lord:

READING- John 3:16 (*Rob*)

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”

CANDLE LIGHTING (*Assistant*)      “He Came Down”  
Verse 1

ELW #253

He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
He came down that we may have love;  
Hallelujah forevermore.

+GREETING (*Assistant*)

L: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

+PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Assistant*)

L: God of deliverance, you rescued Daniel from the mouths of the lions when he was punished for worshipping you. Liberate all who are endangered for the sake of their faith, and rescue us from anything that separates us from worshipping only you, for the sake of the one who made your name known to all people, across land and seas, Jesus Christ, our redeemer. Amen.

**C: Amen.**

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## WORD

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FIRST READING (*Julie Klein*)

Daniel 6:6-27

So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, ‘O King Darius, live forever! All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counsellors and the governors, are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.’ Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict. Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open towards Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, ‘O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?’ The king answered, ‘The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.’ Then they responded to the king, ‘Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you,

O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.' When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, 'Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.' Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, 'May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!' A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, 'O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?' Daniel then said to the king, 'O king, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.' Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces. Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: 'May you have abundant prosperity! I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.'

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

+THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:1-4

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

+SONG OF THE DAY

"No Longer Slaves"

*J. Helser, et al./*

*Dan Galbraith & Frank Ralls*

**Verse 1**

You unravel me with a melody  
You surround me with a song  
Of deliverance from my enemies  
Till all my fears are gone

I've been born again into Your family  
Your blood flows through my veins

**Repeat Chorus 1**

**Chorus 1**

I'm no longer a slave to fear  
I am a child of God  
I'm no longer a slave to fear  
I am a child of God

**Bridge 1**

You split the sea  
so I could walk right through it  
My fears are drowned  
in perfect love  
You rescued me  
so I could stand and sing  
I am a child of God

**Verse 2**

From my Mother's womb  
You have chosen me  
Love has called my name

**Bridge 2**

You split the sea  
 so I could walk right through it  
 You drowned my fears  
 in perfect love

You rescued me  
 so I could stand and sing  
 I am a child of God  
 I am a child of God  
 I am a child of God  
 I am a child of God

+THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

+THE PRAYERS (*Assistant*)

*After each petition:*

L: God of love,

**C: we wait in hope.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Assistant*)

**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.**

## SENDING

+BENEDICTION (*Rob*)

L: God most high, God with us, God poured out on us. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## +CLOSING SONG

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

**ELW #250**

**Verse 1**

Blessed be the God of Israel  
 Who comes to set us free  
 And raises up new hope for us;  
 A Branch from David's tree.

That we might worship without fear  
 And offer lives of praise,  
 In holiness and righteousness  
 To serve God all our days.

So have the prophets long declared  
 That with a mighty arm  
 God would turn back our enemies  
 And all who wish us harm.

**Verse 3**

My child, as prophet of the  
 Lord you will prepare the way,  
 To tell God's people they are saved  
 From sin's eternal sway.

**Verse 2**

With promised mercy will God  
 Still the covenant recall,  
 The oath once sworn to Abraham,  
 From foes to save us all;

Then shall God's mercy from on  
 High shine forth and never cease  
 To drive away the gloom of death  
 And lead us into peace.

+DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Wait for the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE