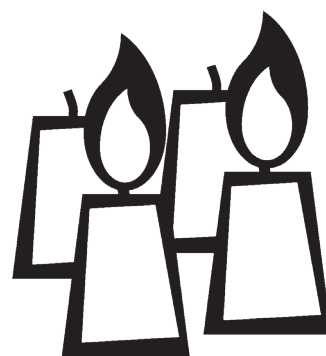


Advent 2

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

John the Baptist paved the way for the Messiah's public ministry by proclaiming a baptism of repentance. As the Church awaits Christ's imminent return, his reign of righteousness, justice and peace continues to guide his followers until he returns in glory. In the meantime, we wait patiently, filled with joy and the power of the Holy Spirit, who sends us into the world to proclaim the Good News of Christ.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10**The Righteous Branch of Jesse**

Isaiah prophesied about the Messiah's arrival, saying that the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him and he will judge for the poor and meek of the world. In his reign, the Messiah will create a land of peace where enemies become friends and wolves lie down with lambs.

Psalm 72:1-7**The Royal Son Brings Deliverance**

God's son will judge the people with righteousness and equity and give deliverance to those in need. He will crush the oppressor in the days to come. His presence will be like rain showers that water the parched earth, and peace will reign forever.

Second Lesson: Romans 15:4-13**Live in Harmony**

Through the Holy Scriptures we receive encouragement for the life of faith. Paul urged the Roman Christians to live in harmony and, with one unified voice, to praise and glorify God the Father, who sent to his people the root of Jesse, his one and only son. This son will grant hope to Jew and Gentile alike.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 3:1-12**John Preaches a Baptism of Repentance**

"The kingdom of heaven is at hand," cried John. The one spoken of by Isaiah called for repentance and a turning to the Lord, who will forgive sin and restore us to new life. Those who resisted the message he scolded, urging them to turn from sin and bear good fruit for the kingdom. Then John proclaimed the coming of the Messiah, the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Suggestions for the Day:

- * The liturgical color is blue (or purple.)
- * Use the Kyrie in Advent.
- * Prayer for lighting the second candle on the Advent wreath — the Bethlehem Candle:

Everlasting God, as we light the Bethlehem Candle on the Advent wreath, may we be reminded of your favor for the smallest and weakest of people in this world. Help us to rely on your strength so that we might be truly stronger. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
- * St. Nicholas Day is Tuesday. Consider telling the "real" story of this faithful follower of Jesus.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:

	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Heaven Comes Near for All Today	---	---	---	---	---	web
Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel	34	---	357	257	103	103
Prepare the Royal Highway	26	---	343	264	102	102
On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry	36	---	344	249	101	101
Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying	31	---	516	436	95	95
My Life Flows on in Endless Song	---	781	---	763	253	253
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy	290	---	---	587	186	186
Comfort, Comfort Now My People	29	---	347	256	98	98
Just As I Am	296	---	570	592	193	193
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	58	---	359	272	116	116

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV= With One Voice, ELW= Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB= The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC= The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles:

One True God
(CCLI# 7052884)
O Come, O Come Emmanuel
(CCLI# 6115317)
Christ Be Everything
(CCLI# 7028378)
How Great is Our God
(CCLI# 5677416)
Salvation is Here
(CCLI# 4451327)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.