

Historic Scripture Lessons for  the First Sunday in Advent
Old Testament

Jeremiah 33:14-18 NIV 'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will fulfill the gracious Promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; He will do what is just and right in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the Name by which It will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.' 17 For this is what the LORD says: 'David will never fail to have a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, 18 nor will the priests, who are Levites, ever fail to have a man to stand before me continually to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings and to present sacrifices.'

Epistle

Romans 13:11-14 And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our Salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the LORD Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Gospel

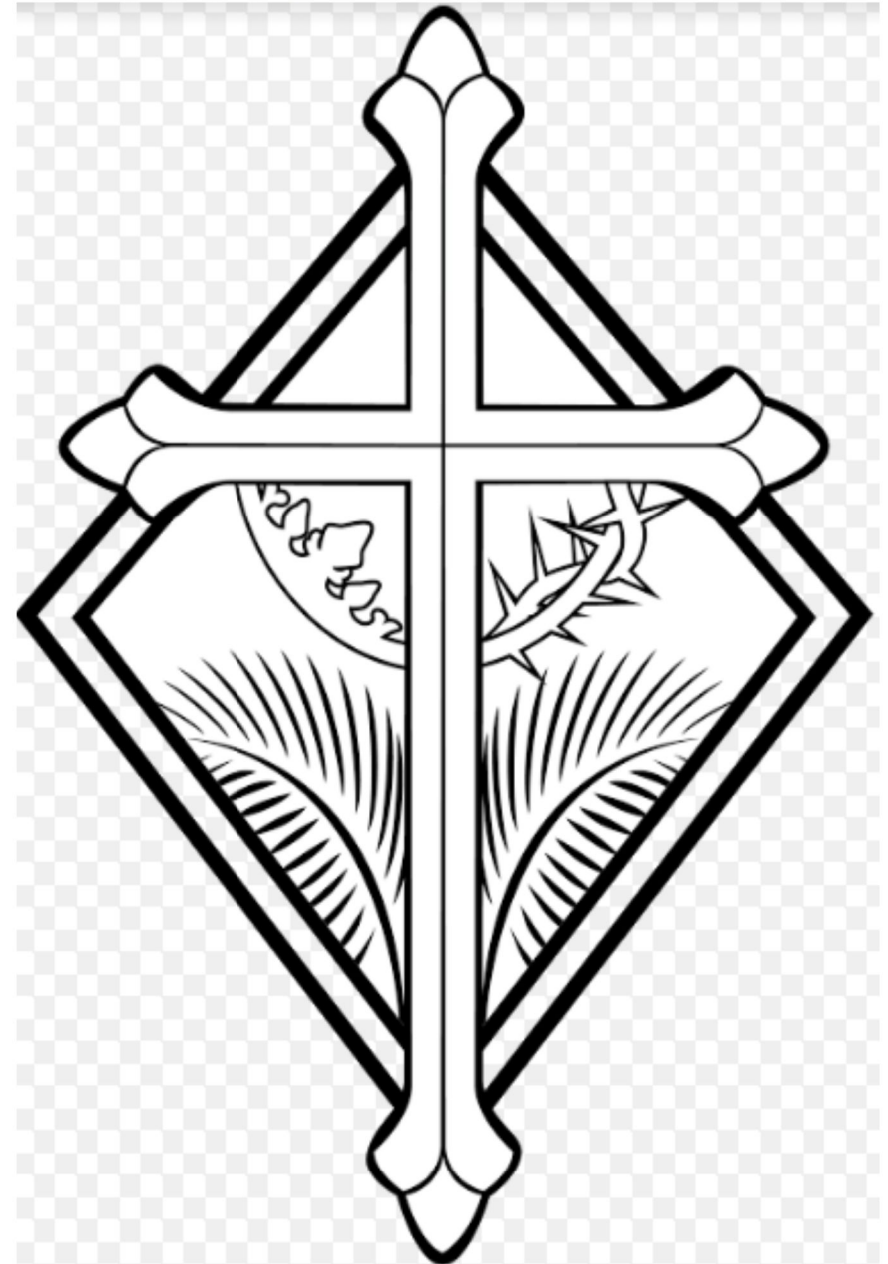
Matthew 21:1-9 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to Me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the LORD needs them, and he will send them right away." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: 5 "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your King comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" 6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of Him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the LORD!" "Hosanna in the highest!"



ILCW Year(B) Gospel: Sermon Text

Mark 13:33-37 Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. 34 It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. 35 "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back - whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. 36 If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. 37 What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'"

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL 
1st Sunday in Advent(B)  *Jesus, the Coming King*
Triumphal Entry ✠ December 3rd, 2017, 9:30 am



Historic Church Year Symbol 1st Sunday in Advent: **Matthew 21 Triumphal Entry**

Image courtesy of Lutheran Synod Publishing <https://lutheransynodpublishing.com>

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✠ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✠ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

December 3rd, 2017 Advent-1 Your King Comes

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. LORD's blessings to you.

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On the silver liturgy sheets or red TLHymnal **p.15**

Service	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Invocation Hymn	70 (4v)	Hosannah to the Living O LORD
<i>Psalm 25</i>	25 (3v)	<i>To You O LORD, I Lift My Soul; to You I Lift...</i> ↗
Hymn of the Day	55 (4v)	Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come
<i>Offertory Verse</i>	68 (1v)	<i>Sing verses 1,2 The Advent of Our King</i> →
Distribution Hymn	315 (15)	I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table
Closing Hymn	341 (5v)	Crown Him With Many Crowns

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays of the 1st Sunday in Year/Advent

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Genesis 3:1-24	Genesis 9:1-19	Gen. 22:1-19	Gen. 49:1-28	Num. 24:14-25	Deu. 18:15-19
Matt. 11:25-30	Acts 3:22-26	Coloss. 1:15-29	Hebrews 1:1-4	Hebrew 2:1-4	Ephes. 3:1-12

PROPERs for 1st Sunday of (Church Year &) Advent-1 DECEMBER 3RD

INTROIT To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in You; let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. Indeed, let no one who waits on You be ashamed. Show me Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. ...from Psalm 25

COLLECT Stir up, we beseech You, Your power, O LORD, and come; that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever, **C: ♪ A- -men.**

GRADUAL C: Alleluia! All those who wait for You will not be ashamed. Show me Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. Alleluia! Alleluia! Show us Your mercy, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation. Alleluia! ...from Psalm 85

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: *(printed on outside back page of the bulletin)*

O.T. Jeremiah 33:14-18	Prophecy Coming of THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.
Epi. Romans 13:11-14	The hour has come to awake from your sleep.
Gos. Matthew 21:1-9	Jesus' Triumphant Entry to Jerusalem (Palm Sun.)

SERMON (Gospel-B) Mark 13:33-37 **THEME: "ARE YOU READY? BE ON GUARD, ALERT."**

Psalm 25 REFRAIN: *To You, O LORD, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.*

Refrain C: ♪ *To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.*

Verse 1. ♪ *Lord, _ Make me know Your ways, Teach me Your paths, And keep me in the way of Your truth, _ For You are God, my Saviour.*

Refrain C: ♪ *To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.*

Verse 2. ♪ *For- the-Lord is good and righteous, _ Revealing His way, To those who seek Him, _ Gently leading the poor, and the humble.*

Refrain C: ♪ *To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.*

Verse 3. ♪ *To-the-ones who seek the Lord, _ Who look to His Word, Who live in His Love, _ He-will-always be near; He will show them His mercy.*

Refrain C: ♪ *To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.*

TLH #68. 1. The Advent of our King - Our prayers must now employ, And we must hymns of welcome sing - In strains of holy joy.

2. The everlasting Son - Incarnate deigns to be; Himself a servant's form puts on - To set His servants free. A--men.

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Jim was in hospital this week	
Mary Lou Knigge	Mary Lou is back home after fall and rehab. Recuperating	
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee fell (twice), was in hospital. Back home rehabbing	
James Vanesky & Delores	Delores is home after hospital (pneumonia) & rehab	
Bev Wienke (Don)	Bev has been recovering (leg). Thank the LORD for recovery	

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Orpha & John Weber	Ilene & Alex Gourley
Treaters	Marquardt (& Christmas)	Volunteer

Statistics	Last week	Year to date / Avg.
Sunday Attendance / (Communion)	30 / (28)	24 / 20
Bible Class Attendance (Sunday)	10	8
Sunday Offering for The LORD	\$. ⁰⁰	YTD Total \$.

Calendar of Events		
Today, Sunday 3 rd	8:30 am	Bible Study Heb. 11 JC, Hero of Faithful
<i>First Sunday of Advent & New Year</i>	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Holy Communion)
	10:45 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee ...Please stay & talk
Wednesday 12/6	.4:30 pm	Midweek Advent (1W) Vespers Worship
Saturday, 12/9	.11:30 am	Ladies Advent Brunch at Huntington Hills
Next Sunday 12/10	8:30 am	Bible Study Heb. 11 JC, Hero of Faithful
<i>Second Sunday of Advent & New Year</i>	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Holy Communion)
	10:45 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee ...Please stay & talk

Our Savior Elders: **Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Steve Wendt 858-3611 & Don Wienke 815-8892.** Please contact with concerns.

✠ Sign up for **Poinsettias** to beautify our sanctuary. Signup sheet in fellowship hall.

This Wednesday: 8th Advent-1W (BLACK ELH p.120) 110 145 141 (TLH) 555

Next Sunday: 12/10 Advent-2 (W/L.S. p.15) Hymns 72 61 644 305 47

ADVENT-1B (Matt.21:1-9) Mark 13:32-37 "G_oOD BEGINS & ENDS" 11.26.17 OS

IN NOMINE IESU: **What I say to you, I say to all: "Watch!" (Mark 13:37)**

INTRODUCTION In a book, good beginnings make for good endings. The **Bible begins** with a very good **"In the beginning,"** when God created the heavens and the earth. The **Bible ends at the end**, when the heavens and the earth come to their appointed end. What has a beginning must also have an end. God made the heavens and earth out of nothing in the beginning. And those same heavens will vanish like a puff of smoke, and the earth will wear out like an old piece of cloth. The last word of the old creation is death, but God's last Word is always life. **"His Salvation will last forever,"** **Isaiah** says. **"His Righteousness will never fail."** A good ending, which is also the beginning of something even better.

(BUT) **Can you really be sure of it? - You NEED to be.** You need to approach the end - whether the end of the world or the end of all things - with **boldness and confidence.** And you can be **as sure as Jesus risen from the dead is sure.** Jesus is the Expert on beginnings and endings. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. He was there in the beginning when God made the heavens and the earth. Through Him all things were made. And He will be there at the end, reigning over all things, raising the dead, dispensing salvation, doing justice to sin, judging the world in His righteousness.

The prophet **Isaiah** spoke about the end (ch. **63 & 64**), which he saw through the lens of Jesus' coming death and Resurrection. **"My righteousness draws near speedily."** Jesus is the righteousness of God, who was made sin for us, even though He himself knew no sin, so that in Him, by God's own declaration, you and I and all who trust in Jesus might become the righteousness of God. A sinner doesn't stand before God on the basis of **his or her own righteousness.** We don't have any. **You** don't have any, **I** don't either, no matter how good we've been lately. **We stand on Christ's righteousness,** a righteousness that drew near to us, became one of us, and brought us in His own flesh to the right hand of God.

"My salvation is on the way." Salvation is coming **to a world that doesn't even seek it.** Oh, it's a very religious world, but the religious world is trying to **bargain with God** on its own terms. You don't **earn** salvation, God sends it, delivers it, applies it, embraces you with it. The world didn't ask for Christ, He came to this world without invitation. And He came to you without waiting for you to decide it would be nice to be saved. **"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. While we were enemies of God, Christ reconciled us to the Father."**

"My Arm will bring justice to the nations." In Jesus, God stretched out His Hand, He extended His Arm, **He reached down to a "down and out world."** He brought justice, perfect justice, the kind of justice you will find in no courtroom on the face of this earth. **"The wages of sin is death,"** and He died for it all. There is God's justice in fullest measure. The gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ. That too is God's justice - He justifies the ungodly in His Son Jesus Christ.

Isaiah says **"Look."** Look up in the heavens, look at the earth. It all looks so permanent, so solid, so sure(?). But the heavens will vanish like a puff of smoke, the earth will unravel like an old pair of underwear, the world's population will perish like flies. **A disturbing image?! --** Sure it is. We like and rely on **permanence** and **predictability.** We live by certain assumptions: the sun comes up in the morning, the moon in its cycles, the tides, the cycles of the season. When surprises come our way, we're unnerved, edgy. Think about the last time someone tried to predict a major hurricane or earthquake (...or even the end of world). It sets people **on edge**; some **prepare**; some **watch.**

Watch. Wake up. Be alert. Salvation is coming. Righteousness is near. Jesus said, **"No one knows the day or the hour."** (Even) The angels don't. They stand ready, watching, waiting, for the word to go out and harvest the earth. That's one of their jobs. **Even Jesus in His humanity "didn't know" as He was speaking.** He does now in His glory, but (in) **His humanity and humility did not.** He told His curious disciples, **"It's not for you to know the times or the seasons."** That's a secret between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus compares it to **household servants.** The Master goes away leaving his servants in charge, each with his or her own assigned task, and He tells the one at the door to keep watch. What He **doesn't tell them is when** He'll come back. What if he had? What if the master had said, **"I'll be back a year from now, (on December 3rd)." What do you think would happen? You know how it is. We'd kick back, relax, hang out, have a party, polish off the master's wine collection, let the house run down, the paint peel and the grass grow. And as the day drew near, panic would set in as we tried to get the house back in order.** Instead of joy, there's panic and fear.

Jesus disappears, and says to His Church, **"I'll be back in a flash. Keep watch."** We don't know when. Could be **evening**(9 pm), the dead of **midnight**, the crowing of the **rooster**(3 am), or **dawn.** The most **unlikely** of hours, everyone is asleep, when the world is dark, when the world least expects Him. Then suddenly and without warning – **T/Here He is!**

"Don't let Him find you sleeping," Jesus says. (Now don't get too literal here. Don't get a case of End times **insomnia.**) Sleep is a **picture for unbelief.** Don't let him **find you asleep in unbelief, rejecting** His goodness. That's why Jesus never told His disciples the day or the hour of the end. The old Adam is a natural procrastinator who would say, **"Let's live it up, do as we please, eat, drink, party. We can repent the day before and clean up the house before He returns on the Day He said."**

Jesus leaves no such **luxury of security.** Today is the day to repent, to trust to watch. **Now is the time of your salvation.** Don't wait for tomorrow; (because) you **don't know** if you **have** a tomorrow. Don't say, **"I have time, I'll look into it when I get a chance."** Today, now, this moment is **a saving moment for you,** in which Christ comes to you and **forgives** you, feeds you His own **Body and Blood,** keeps you **in the faith,** washes away your sin, prepares to present you holy, spotless, blameless on His big, LastDay.

(So then,) How do we live as servants on the watch, waiting for the Master to return at an unspecified day and hour? **Not** in a panic, **not** in fear or dread. He's

coming to bring salvation and righteousness. He's coming to raise the dead, to vindicate faith, to give eternal life to His believers. **Look forward to it!**

(JUDE) St. **Jude** has a few words for life in the Last days. Build yourselves up in your most holy faith. **Not your** faith, but **thĒ** faith. Don't focus on **your** believing, focus on **What** you believe, in **Whom** you believe. The End Times are a time of (a lot of) **bad religion and false messiahs**. God's people need to be wise and discerning. These are no times for ignorant believers. **Be built up in the faith. Know what you believe and why.**

(And,) **Pray in the Holy Spirit**. Watchful servants **pray** for each other, for the world, for those who do not yet believe. The words "**watch and pray**" are paired together. The wonderful thing is that **you are never alone in prayer**. You **pray in the Spirit**, Who prays for you and carries your prayer **to the Son** Who offers it **to the Father**.

Keep yourselves "in God's Love." (...But,) **How** do you do that? By **hearing His Words of Love** to you, by receiving His gifts of love that Christ died to win **for you**. As things go from **bad to worse to unbearable**, it won't be easy to know that God is love just by looking at the sky or the earth. God will not look like a lovey-dovey Deity when the heavens vanish like smoke and the earth unravels before our eyes. The face of **God's love is the face of Jesus**. This is how God loved the world - in His Son Jesus (**John 3:16**). God's love is seen in your **Baptism**; it's heard in the Word of **Forgiveness**; it's tasted in the **Supper** of His sacrificial Body and Blood. Stay close to these things, cling to them as you watch and wait.

Faith also has "**peripheral vision**." We forget that when we focus on ourselves all the time. The church is a team effort. **Jude** says, "*Be merciful to those who doubt.*" **Help the weak in faith**. Help those who are weak and doubting, grabbing as many as you can. **We are God's Israel** for the end times. Our work, as servants in the Master's house, is to prepare the world for the appearing of its Savior. Do it with **mercy and fear**. If you see someone in a boat about to go over a waterfall, you would warn them, wouldn't you? You might throw them a rope. You might even attempt to swim out to them, but not without **first tying yourself off to a solid rock. Be anchored in Jesus, the Rock** of your salvation, when you swim out to others. Don't climb in the (sinful) boat with them. **Don't join others in their sin**; instead **pull them out**. We have (only) Good News. Jesus is the Savior of sinners. That applies to everyone and anyone, and you, as a Baptized believer, have the privilege to say so.

CONCLUSION (So,) The **Last Word** for these last days is "**Watch!**" Watch **soberly**, watch **eagerly**, watch **expectantly** - God's Salvation is on the way; His Arm will bring justice; His Righteousness is closing in fast. (That's) **200-proof Good News!** The end is near! And, it's definitely **A Good End!** In Jesus, the end of the old is the **beginning of the new** (= Heaven!).

DOXOLOGY To Him Who is able to keep you from falling and to present you without blemish before the presence of His glory with rejoicing, to the only God, our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all ages, and now, and until the End of the Ages. **IJ/N, Amen. SDG**

Possible Prayer of Church ☞ 1st Sunday of Advent(/Ch.Year) December 3rd

*As God has bid us to come and go up to the mountain of our Lord and to the house of our God, let us **go in prayer**, confidently believing that our Lord will both hear and give answer to our petitions and supplications. (Silence?)*

Lord, You have given us the stars as markers of days and seasons, and we thank You for bringing us to the beginning of a new Church Year. Keep us faithful as we move through its observances and celebrations. May we gather often to hear the proclamation of Your Son and receive the gifts You so freely bestow upon us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We do not know the time the Son of Man will come, that knowledge belongs only to You, O Lord. Keep us wakeful, watchful and ever ready for His arrival, so that we along with all Your faithful people may be gathered from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord of all nations, as we await the full coming of Your promised Kingdom, be with all who make, administer and judge our laws. May they use the authority that You have given them wisely and according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, You are our Father, hide not Your face from us. Look with kindness especially upon **[OSL Prayer List]**

Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Jim was in hospital this week
Mary Lou Knigge	Mary Lou is back home after fall and rehab. Recuperating
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee fell (twice), was in hospital. Back home rehabbing
James Vanesky & Delores	Delores home after hospital (pneumonia) & rehab
Bev Wienke (Don)	Bev recovering (leg). Thank the LORD for recovery

and all who cry out to You in time of need. According to Your will, give healing to the sick, comfort to those who mourn and perseverance to those who suffer for the sake of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Lord, even as we await Your coming in glory, You come to us in the here and now in the bread and wine that is the body and blood of Your Son. May all who approach Your table today receive the Sacrament worthily, so that with sins forgiven and faith strengthened Your people lack no gift as they await the revealing of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We remember with thankfulness all the faithful who have gone before us and are now with You. Preserve and sustain us until the end, so that we will all be presented guiltless before You in the day of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

All these things, O Lord, we pray, knowing that You, in Your fatherly wisdom and care, will grant us what is good and right for us and for our salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. Then, Lord's Supper, p.24