## å å å l. The Service of Vespers ELH p.120 å å å

12/16 MIDWEEK ADVENT-3W WORSHIP 4:30pm. INVOCATION (Please rise.)

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son ♣, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

**THE CONFESSION OF SINS** *P:* Dearly beloved! We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

C: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy Law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O LORD! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our LORD. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your Holy Name.

### The ABSOLUTION

P: The Almighty and Merciful LORD has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

**OPENING HYMN Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes** *ELH* **#109** (4v)

- 1. Hark the glad sound! The Sav-ior comes, The Sav-ior prom-ised long; Let ev-'ry hea-rt prepare- a throne And ev-'ry voice- a song.
  - 2. He comes the pris'ners to- release, In Sa-tan's bond-age held. The gates- of brass- before- Him burst, The i-ron fet-ters yield.
  - 3. He comes the broken heart- to bind, The bleed-ing soul- to cure, And with- the trea-sures of- His grace To'enrich- the hum-ble poor.
  - 4. Our glad hosannas, Prince- of Peace, Thy wel-come shall- proclaim And Heav-n's eter-nal ar-ches ring With Thy- belov-ed Name.

### The VERSICLES ELH, p.120

- P: \$\infty\$ O LORD, open my lips. C: \$\infty\$ And my mouth will show forth Your praise.
- P: ♪ Make haste, O God, to deliver me. C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O LORD.

### The GLORIA PATRI

C: ♪ Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and- to- the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning; is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. A-men. Al-le-lu—ia!

LECTION: SCRIPTURE LESSONS for ADVENT "JESUS IS OUR KING (DAVID)"

The (7) Great "O" Antiphons or, the (7) verses of Veni Emmanuel

HYMN Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel ELH #110 (Sing vv.1-2 now)

- 1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

  Rejoice! Rejoice! Em-ma---nu-el Shall come to thee, O Is---rael.
- 2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ordered all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show And teach us in Her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Em-ma---nu-el Shall come to thee, O Is---rael.

FIRST READING Isaiah 22:15-25 Jesus is our Key of David.

**Isaiah 22:15-25 NIV** This is what the Lord, the LORD Almighty, says: "Go, say to this steward, to Shebna, who is in charge of the palace: 16 What are you doing here and who gave you permission to cut out a grave for yourself here, hewing your grave on the height and chiseling your resting place in the rock? 17 "Beware, the LORD is about to take firm hold of you and hurl you away. O you mighty man. 18 He will roll you up tightly like a ball and throw you into a large country. There you will die and there your splendid chariots will remain-- you disgrace to your master's house! 19 I will depose you from your office, and you will be ousted from your position. 20 "In that day I will summon my servant, Eliakim son of Hilkiah. 21 I will clothe him with your robe and fasten your sash around him and hand your authority over to him. He will be a father to those who live in Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. 22 I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. 23 I will drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will be a seat of honor for the house of his father. 24 All the glory of his family will hang on him: its offspring and offshoots-- all its lesser vessels, from the bowls to all the jars. 25 "In that day," declares the LORD Almighty, "the peg driven into the firm place will give way; it will be sheared off and will fall, and the load hanging on it will be cut down." The LORD has spoken.

"O"Antiphon #5. O Key of David, and Scepter of the house of Israel,



You open and no one can close, You close and no one can open; Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness And the shadow of death.

SECOND READING Isaiah 9:1-2 Jesus is Our Dayspring from on High.

**Isaiah 9:1-2** Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles, by the way of the sea, along the Jordan - 2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

"O" Antiphon #4. O Dayspring, Splendor of Light everlasting:

Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness And the shadow of death!

**○ Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel** ELH #110 (Sing vv.5-6 now)

- 5. O come, Thou Key of David, come And open wide our Heav'nly Home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Em-ma---nu-el Shall come to thee, O Is---rael.
- 6. Oh, come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine Advent here Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, - And death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Em-ma---nu-el Shall come to thee, O Is---rael. The OFFERING

The VERSICLE P: \$\int \text{Let my prayers rise before you as incense:}

 $C: \Gamma$  And the lifting up of my hands - As the ev'ning sacrifice.

The MAGNIFICAT (Song of Mary) Words and music on p.123 and back page →

KYRIE ELEISON (LORD Have Mercy) C: ♪ LORD, have mercy upon us. - CHRIST, have mercy upon us. - LORD, have mercy upon us.

LORD'S PRAYER C: ♪ Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowèd 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.

C: A - - - - - men.

The (Evening) COLLECT (Pastor prays, Congregation Amen) C: ♪ A--men.

The BENEDICAMUS P: 1 Let us bless the LORD. C: 1 Thanks be to God.

The BENEDICTION P: \$\( \) The Grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: \$\( \) A---men.

CLOSING CAROL Bright and Glorious Is the Sky #120 NFS Grundtvig

- 1) Bright and glorious is the sky
  Radiant are the Heavens high
  Where the golden stars are shining.
  All their rays to earth inclining
  Beckon us to Heav'n above,
  Beckon us to Heav'n above.
- 3) Sages from the East afar, When they saw this wondrous star, Went to find the King of nations And to offer their oblations Unto Him as Lord and King, Unto Him as Lord and King.
- 2) On that holy Christmas night Through the darkness beamed a light; All the stars above were paling, All their luster slowly failing As the Christmas star drew nigh, As the Christmas star drew nigh.
- 4) Him they found in Bethlehem, Yet He wore no diadem; They but saw a maiden lowly With an Infant pure and holy Resting in her loving arms, Resting in her loving arms.

Silent Prayer & & (Candles out.) & & FELLOWSHIP

## Rey of David December 20th

"Key of David" is perhaps the most obscure name for Jesus in the O Antiphons. It comes up in the Old Testament once in Isaiah. Eliakim son of Hilkiah "was over the household" (2 Kings 18:18) of King Hezekiah. Shebna was the secretary. Shebna trusted in himself and the work of his hands – riding around in "glorious chariots" and making a monumental tomb for himself. Eliakim, on the other hand, is not trusting the work of his hands. However, the people trust him when they should trust the Lord (verse 24).

Trusting in man, whether oneself or someone else, ends in death. We needed someone to free us from this awful sinful prison. Jesus says, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades" (Revelation 1:17-18). These are "the words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens" (Revelation 3:7). Jesus has rescued us prisoners from the shadow of death.

# Dayspring December 21st

Zechariah echoed the words of this prophecy when he said of Jesus "the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace" (Luke 1:78-79).

Jesus says in John 8:12, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Darkness was over the land as Jesus hung on the cross and it seemed that the shadow death had defeated him. But the darkness of sin and death did not overcome him! (John 1:5). Jesus has risen from the dead, and through the preaching of his Gospel God continues to say "Let there be light" (2 Corinthians 4:6) and enlightens us who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Now our soul waits for the dawn of the Lord's second coming more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning (Psalm 130:6).