



First Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship for 12/7/25

Online at www.calvinchurch.net | | via phone at (952) 208-6020 | | parking lot radio on 87.9FM

*** Please rise in body/spirit | Congregational responses are in bold**

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

We Three Kings

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place.

As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy. Amen.

LIGHTING THE SECOND CANDLE

RESPONSE #2090

Advent Song (v.1-2)

Candle 1

Light the Advent candle one
Now the waiting has begun
We have started on our way
Time to think of Christmas day.

Chorus:

Candle, candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle, candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

Candle 2

Light the Advent candle two
Think of humble shepherds who
Filled with wonder at the sight

Of the child on Christmas night.

Chorus:

Candle, candle burning bright
Shining in the cold winter night
Candle, candle burning bright
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

OPENING PRAYER

O Root of Jesse, Prince of Peace, stir up your power within us, that in this time we may await with abundant expectation the fulfillment of your eternal presence in creation, for you live and reign among us, Maker, Savior, and Giver of Life, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN #8

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1 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!

2 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple, set apart
From earthly use for heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

3 Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to Thee: here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we do not believe in your incarnation. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the name of Jesus Christ, **we are forgiven.**

*HYMN #23

Angels We Have Heard on High (Refrain Only)

Gloria, in excelsis Deo;
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 15:4-13

New Testament page 163

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 3:1-12

This is the Word of the Lord

New Testament page 2

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. TJ Shirley

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN #10

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

2 Then cleansed be every life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within;
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

3 We hail You as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
O let us Your face upon us shine
And fill the world with love divine.

4 All praise to You, eternal Son,
Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Spirit, evermore.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Find In Me a Thankful Heart

*DOXOLOGY #592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

And so we sing with all the saints on earth
and all the angels in heaven:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest...

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again...**

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal p. 16

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION *(Gluten-free elements provided on stand in front.)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENT IN GOD'S NAME

* CLOSING HYMN #13

Prepare the Way

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Christ brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.
Oh blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Gift

Liturgical resources from Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion and Book of Common Worship (2018).

