

November 24, 2024: "Justice" Reign of Christ / Extended Advent 3

Welcome and Prelude: Improvisation

Gathering Song *Canticle of the Turning* (ELW 723)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Prayer of Illumination

Kyrie (ELW p. 203)

The words "kyrie eleison" are an ancient prayer meaning "Lord have mercy".

Leader

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son

All

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son

Chri - ste e - le - i - son, Chri - ste e - le - i - son

Ky - re - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Canticle of Praise (ELW p. 204)

Sing glo - ry to God, and peace on earth.

We sing glo - ry to God in the high - est.

We_ wor - ship you, we_ give_ you thanks.

We_ praise you for_ your glo - ry Lord.

Sing glo - ry to God, and peace on earth.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

Prayer of the Day

Jesus, we want to balance the scales so everything weighs even, but you invite us to listen more for what is loving than what is fair. Recalibrate our sense of justice as we dwell in your presence today. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

⁹ As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence.

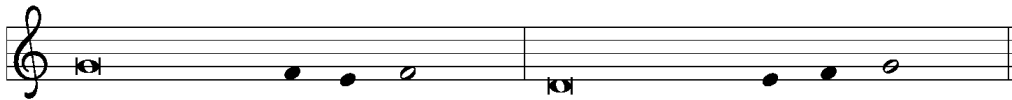
A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

¹³ As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him.

¹⁴ To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Psalm: Psalm 93



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¹ The Lord is king, robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and | armed with strength.

The Lord has made the world so sure that it can- | not be moved.

² **Ever since the world began, your throne has | been established;
you are from | everlasting. R**

³ The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted | up their voice;
the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.

⁴ **Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers | of the sea,
mightier is the Lord who | dwells on high.**

⁵ Your testimonies are | very sure,
and holiness befits your house, O Lord, forever and for- | evermore. **R**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Each of our Advent candles represents God's generous goodness, the advent of Jesus, God's greatest gift, the Spirit's fluttering flicker of joy. As we light each candle, we recognize the gifts God has given us this week.

Together, we pray: *(Each prayer is said as that candle is lit.)*

God, you shield us like tender flames; **your care enables us to burn brighter.**

God, we pool our faith like candlelight; **through you we reveal hidden goodness.**

God, your justice upends this broken world. **Use your mercy to transform everything that harms.**

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

^{4b} Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶ and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Pre - pare our hearts, our minds, our souls

To hear your word, to know your truth, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: John 18:33-37

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵ Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷ Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Justice is not about getting what one is owed but about acting out of love in real, concrete, noticeable ways, regardless of any personal benefit or consequences.

Emily Trubey-Weller
More Than Words: Preachers' Notes
November 24, 2024

Hymn of the Day *Let Streams of Living Justice* (ELW 710)

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance; pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934
Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from
God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who
with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe
in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We
look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with “Merciful God,” and the congregational response is “receive our prayer.”

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Special Music: “Be Still My Soul” / Finlandia, Sharon Lockett, Cellist

Meal

Offering Prayer

Together we pray.

Holy Spirit, please bless these small gifts we give. **You set the table with plenty of love.**

Prepare room in your home **for my neighbor and me.** Prepare a place in your vision **for my neighbor and me.**

Prepare a seat at your table **for my neighbor and me.**

Holy Spirit, you have blessed these gifts we give. **You set the table with plenty of love. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving Dialogue

Leader Congregation

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Leader Congregation

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Leader Congregation

Let us give thanks to the Lord, to the Lord our God.

All

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Song



O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.



O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.



O Lamb of God you take a-way the sin_ of the world.



Have mer cy on us O Lord. Grant us peace. Grant us peace O Lord.

Communion Hymn: *More Than Words*

"More Than Words" was written to accompany worship throughout the Advent season. This original hymn explores the thematic interplay of each of the seven Advent words (care, faith, justice, hope, peace, joy, and love) as gifts from God. As God's love is magnified for us, we magnify it like Mary, too. It will be our communion hymn for the Advent season.



1. When twi - light leaves the even - ing sky and night re - veals the
2. When bit - ter days and bar - ren ground sap strength and pow - er and
3. When rough ter - rain makes prog - ress hard, God lev - els what's in the



stars, the far ho - ri - zon hope of God comes sing - ing to our hearts.
voice, ten - a - cious faith will hold us fast; God's hope will say, re - joice!
way; a ten - der jus - tice will car - ry us, and care will not de - lay.

Refrain



Your love is more than words, O God, a flame you kin - dle, a seed you sow, a



rose that blooms in the snow, and we will mag - ni - fy your love.

Prayer after Communion

God, what you have planned for us unfolds slowly.

Your love is often unrecognizable, unappreciated, gentle and unnoticed.

But at this table we have noticed what others do not see.

We have tasted your unspoken goodness. And now send us out to magnify your love. Amen.

Blessing

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,

God, our hope for the journey, ✝ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song *Now Thank We All Our God (isometric)* (ELW 840)



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,
2 Oh, may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,



who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Dismissal

People of God, you have heard of the advent of God's goodness.

You carry the blessing of God, God, the First Whisper, Jesus, the Living Promise, Spirit, the Speaker of Hearts.

Now go into this world expecting God's justice and nurturing God's peace.

God, we will magnify your love.

Organ Postlude:

To allow those who wish to use the postlude as a time of reflection at the close of worship, we ask that the congregation exit the sanctuary in a way that allows that. We invite you to visit over refreshments in the centrum.