

The Promise of HOPE

First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2025 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

God's light of amazing grace shines upon us all...always. Throughout the season of Advent, we will get to hear how that promise of grace shines its brilliant light in the stories of several biblical figures and messengers of God's promise. These stories of grace brings hope, peace, joy and love. Today we see how God was offering His people hope in Isaiah 9 by promising a light that would come to expel the darkness. And how Simeon had the boldness to hope that God would come through, even after years of waiting.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE SING

"My Hope Is In You"
"Light of The World"

WE PRAY

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:1-2

¹Nevertheless, 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 nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan. ²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 1:13-15

¹³Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. ¹⁵But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:25-35

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

³³The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

KIDS' TIME

DCE Liz Peters

MESSAGE

"Advent Hope"

(Today's Readings)

Pastor Doug Slavens

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

P: Let us confess our sins to God, trusting in his mercy for the sake of Jesus our Lord.

C: Almighty God, you have called us to a living hope in Jesus. Yet so often we do not reflect that hope in our lives. We turn away from the promises of your Word. We walk in our own selfish ways instead of following in Jesus' footsteps. We do not love others as we should, and we are not always willing to share our hope with the people around us. Have mercy on us and forgive us.

(a time of quiet before the Lord)

GOD FORGIVES OUR SIN

P: God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior and for his sake forgives our sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: "O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you."

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH - 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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF BLESSING & INSTITUTION

SHARING OF PEACE

P: Come now and receive Christ's body and blood together with His blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

WE SING

"Advent Hymn"

"Hope For Everyone"

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

WE SING

"Say, Say"

OUR OFFERINGS

All that we have and all that we are, belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good! We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online **memorillutheran.net** or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.