

# Advent 01

12-03-2023

Greg Fetzer, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

**Opening Hymn:** [ELW 241 – O Lord, How Shall I Meet You](#)

## Prayer of the Day

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

## Advent Prayer – Lighting of the First Candle: Preparedness

Praise to you O God, our salvation who is near. You fold us in your wakening. You keep us awake in the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your coming. We trust that while we do not know the day or the hour, you herd together all people in your peace and goodwill. Amen.

**Hymn of Praise:** [Glory to God in the Highest](#)

**Psalmody:** Psalm 25

Prayer for Guidance and for Deliverance

## Of David.

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>O my God, in you I trust;  
do not let me be put to shame;  
do not let my enemies exult over me.

<sup>3</sup>Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;  
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>Make me to know your ways, O LORD;  
teach me your paths.

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all day long.

<sup>6</sup>Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.

<sup>7</sup>Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right  
and teaches the humble his way.

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

**The Anthem:** [“Mary Did You Know?” by Mark Lowery and Buddy Greene, performed by Brad Bondhus and Debbie White-Bondhus](#)

**The Reading:** Jeremiah 33:10-11, 14-18

**10** Thus says the LORD: In this place of which you say, “It is a waste without humans or animals,” in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are desolate, without inhabitants, human or animal, there shall once more be heard <sup>11</sup> the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voices of those who sing as they bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD:

“Give thanks to the LORD of hosts,  
for the LORD is good,  
for his steadfast love endures forever!”

For I will restore the fortunes of the land as at first, says the LORD.

**The Righteous Branch and the Covenant with David**

**14** The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup> In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup> In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

<sup>17</sup> For thus says the Lord: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel, <sup>18</sup> and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to make grain offerings, and to make sacrifices for all time.

**Hymn:** [ELW#631 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling](#)

**The Message:** [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

**Offering\*:** ([On-Line giving Link](#))

We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

**The Prayer**

We pray for all who need your comforting and healing presence especially: Heidi Brackbill, Parker Brennan, Rebecca Brennan, the Elshafei family, Alexis Erdman, Samantha Erdman, the Fleming family, Jeff Fultz, Mary Goehring, Bob Hardy, Angela Hays, Mark Hughes, the Johnson family, Faith Jolly, Robert Karner, Charles Larsen, Charlotte Leer, the McNamara family, Donna Mayhew, Wendy Neumann, Julie Obie, Peter Olsen, Brenda Penyak, Dottie Reitz, Robert Reitz, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, the Spiegler family, Esther Trautwein, Rich Wokkittel, and Pastor Jack. Hear us, O God.

We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make His face shine upon you;

The Lord lift up His presence upon you and give you peace. Amen

And now my brothers and sisters

Live on knowing God's love,

The joy of living this life of love,

And the peace which only comes through the power of His presence within you.

So live on in Love, Joy, Peace, and Power.

**Closing Hymn:** [ELW#257 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel](#)

**Announcements**

- **December 9** - Saturday, 10 am - Putting Up the Greens
- **December 17** - Chocolate and Carols with the Community and Scouts
- **December 24** - 9:30 am Regular Service, 7 pm Christmas Eve Service

\*Offering to be sent to

Robert Brackbill

10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane

Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church

9122 Sybert Drive  
Columbia Hills  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291)