

# MIGHTY GOD

## AS WE GATHER

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God's Son, who was given the name *Jesus*—a Hebrew name that means “God saves.” However, in addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles that describe something about His person or work. We will examine the four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6—Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace—and will study how each of these titles describes something about who Jesus is and what He did for our salvation.

Today we consider the truth that Jesus was and is Immanuel, God among us, the mighty One in whom we may trust for all things here in time until we meet Him in eternity. Jesus is more than a mere human who was a great teacher or a popular hero. He was and is God in human flesh, and only God Himself can save us from sin, death, and the devil.

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN #900

*"Jesus Name of Wondrous Love"*



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,  
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,  
6 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Hu - man name of God a - bove;



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.  
Plead - ing on - ly this, we flee Help - less, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt. Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 9:1–2, 6–7**

**P** A reading from Isaiah, the ninth chapter.

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time He brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time He has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.

**C** For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,  
and His name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**P** Of the increase of His government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over His kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** When Isaiah looked forward to our Lord's coming, he said the  
zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. Today we give thanks that  
the Holy Spirit has shown us the mighty God at work in His Son,  
Jesus Christ.

### HYMN #332

### *"Savior of the Nations, Come"*

6 For You are the Fa - ther's Son Who in flesh the  
Δ 8 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther sing, Glo - ry to the  
vic - t'ry won. By Your might - y pow'r make whole  
Son, our king, Glo - ry to the Spir - it be  
All our ills of flesh and soul.  
Now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (st. 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text (st. 6): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003072

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** Our Mighty God came into the flesh as one of us, and He knows our needs and weaknesses. Let us therefore confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

**C** I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

**P** By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

**C** Amen.

### HYMN #361 v. 4

### *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*



Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93 Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

## PSALM

## Psalm 24; antiphon: v. 7

**P** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

**C** for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

**P** Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in His holy place?

**C** He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

- P** He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- C** **Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**
- P** Lift up your heads, O gates!
- C** **And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
- P** Who is this King of glory?
- C** **The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**
- P** Lift up your heads, O gates!
- C** **And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
- P** Who is this King of glory?
- C** **The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient  
doors, that the King of glory may come in.**

## SECOND READING

Titus 2:11–14

- P** A reading from Titus, the second chapter.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

- P** O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

## THIRD READING

John 5:16–18; 8:48–59

- P** A reading from John, the fifth and eighth chapters.

And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT

**Jeremiah 23:5a, 6**

**P** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

### CATECHISM

*The Second Article*

**P** What does it mean that we believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord?

**C** **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and**

**from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

**SERIES HYMN #412**

*"The People That in Darkness Sat"*



1 The peo - ple that in dark - ness sat A glo - rious  
 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righ - teous - ness, The gath - 'ring  
 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -



light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
 na - tions come; They joy as when the reap - ers bear Their  
 Son is giv'n, And on His shoul - der ev - er rests All  
 last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The



shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
 har - vest trea - sures home, Their har - vest trea - sures home.  
 pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
 God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.

His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;  
 On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end,  
 His reign shall have no end.

Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,  
 Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one,  
 And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749-98, alt. Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

**SERMON**

**"Mighty God"**

**Isaiah 9:1-2, 6-7**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN #531**

*"Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus"*



4 Wor - ship, hon - or, pow'r, and bless - ing Thou art wor - thy

to re - ceive; High - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing, Right it  
 is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic spir - its,  
 All your no - blest an - thems raise; Help to sing our  
 Sav - ior's mer - its, Help to chant Im - man - uel's praise!

Text: Hymns Addressed to the Holy, Holy, Holy, Triune God, 1757, London, alt.; A Collection of Psalms and Hymns, 1760, London, alt. Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYER FROM SUNDAY

- P** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son,
- C** that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds;
- P** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

### PRAYER FOR TODAY

- P** Open our eyes, heavenly Father, that we may see all that You have done.
- C** By coming in the person of Your Son and by His sacrifice for us, You have assured us that the worldly forces around us shall be a thing of the past when Your Spirit ushers us into Your eternal presence;
- P** through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I

have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

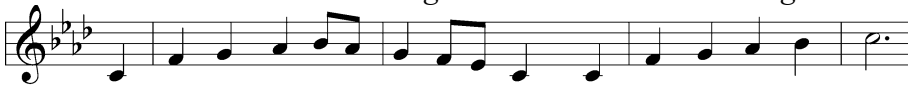
## BENEDICTION

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN #348

*"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"*



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925, alt. Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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