December 3, 2023—First Sunday of Advent

Prayer of the Day:
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

First Reading **Isaiah 64:1-9**

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you
in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of
every kind— 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— 7 so that you are
not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also
strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Taize #2 "*Alleluia*"

Gospel Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. 27 Then he will
send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the
ends of heaven.
28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its
leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you
know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until
all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass
away.
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only
the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man
going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and
commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know
when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at
dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to
all: Keep awake."
P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day ELW #436 "*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*"



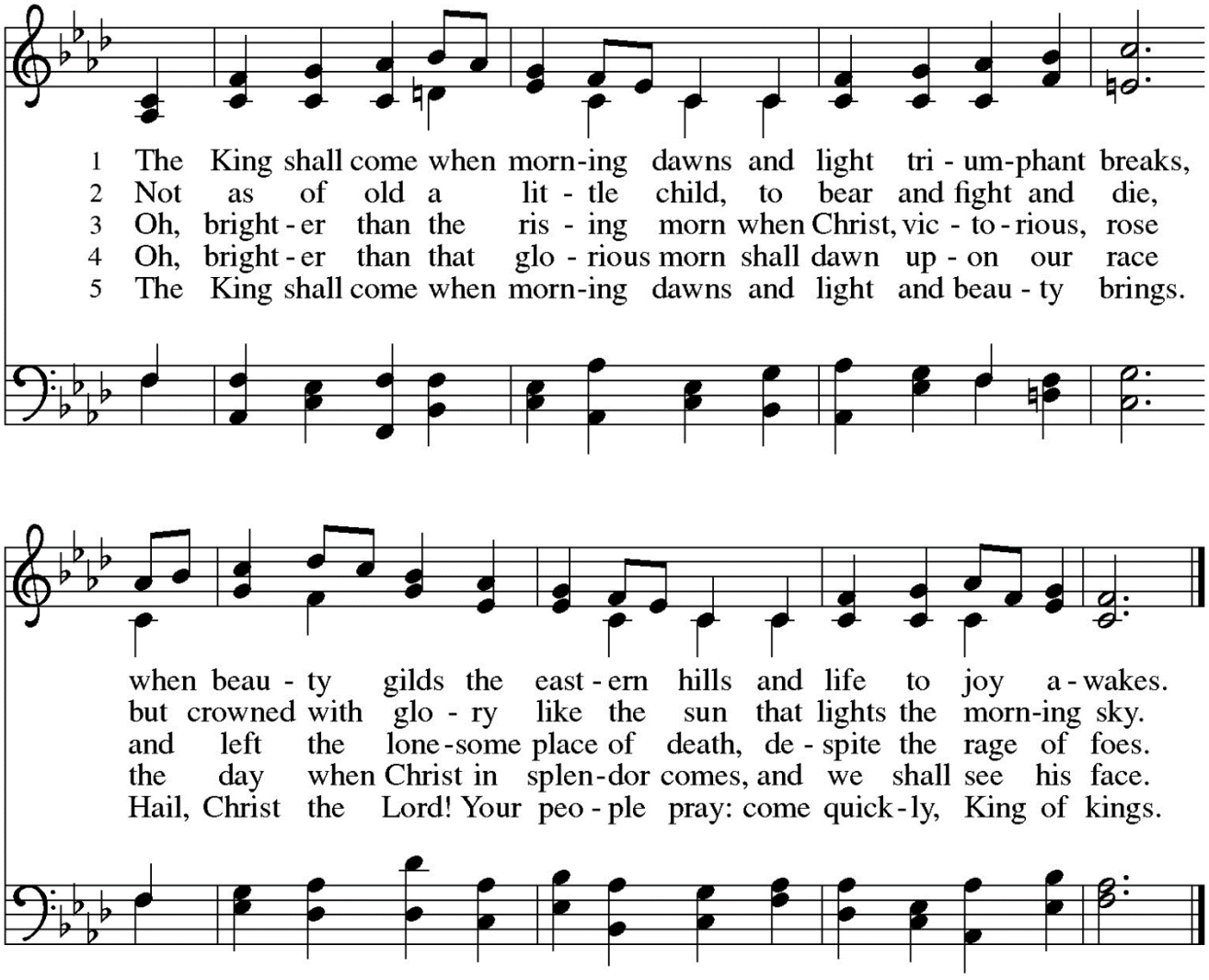
Hymn of the Day continued...



Closing Hymn

ELW #260 *"The King Shall Come"*

Verses 1, 3, 5



Announcements

Church Greening

Next Sunday, December 10th, we will green the church following worship. We will put up the tree, hang wreaths and garland, and make sure the sanctuary and exterior of the church is ready for the Christmas season! If you are willing to help with this, please let Desirae (dcontreras@concordiafaith.org) or Pastor Zook (nzook@concordiafaith.org) know.

Children's Christmas Sale

The Children's Christmas sale will take place on Sunday, December 10th following the worship service in the two-year old room downstairs (off the kitchen). Children will be able to shop for their family members with all items being sold for $1. We are looking for donations of wrapping paper and tape from church members to help with this event. Please bring any donations of paper or tape to church by the morning of December 10th.

Christmas Bazaar

The first-ever Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale will be held on Sunday, December 10th in the gym in conjunction with fellowship hour. This is a great opportunity to purchase platters of baked goods for all your holiday parties and other functions, as well as shop for Christmas gifts for your family and friends – or even for yourself! We are looking for donations of handmade items, arts and crafts, or services (like a photography session, skill lesson, etc.). If you are interested in donating an item or service, please reach out to Desirae at dcontreras@concordiafaith.org.

Christmas Spectacular with Lakeshore Brass

Join us for some Christmas music and fun on Friday, December 15th at 7pm. Lakeshore Brass quintet is back for another Christmas Spectacular with special guests Marisa Buchheit, soprano, and Benjamin Burney, tenor. Tickets are $15/person and children 10 years and younger are free. Cider and cookies will be enjoyed during this fun, family-friendly event! Buy your tickets today at concordiafaith.org/concerts.

Leave of Absence

Jen Phillips is taking a leave of absence from her staff role, extending through the end of January 2024. During this time, you may see Jen at church on Sunday mornings or attending special events, as member or volunteer. During Jen's leave of absence, please reach out to Desirae (dcontreras@concordiafaith.org) or Pastor Zook (nzook@concordiafaith.org) for assistance.

December Schedule of Events

Sunday, December 3rd: First Sunday of Advent Worship at 10:00am
Sunday 'Fun Day' for kids 9:30am-1:30pm
Council Meeting 11:15am

Sunday, December 10th: Second Sunday of Advent Worship at 10:00am
Greening of the church following worship
Christmas Bazaar & Children's Sale

Friday, December 15th: Christmas Spectacular Concert with Lakeshore Brass

Sunday, December 17th: Third Sunday of Advent Worship at 10:00am

Sunday, December 24th: Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship (pre-recorded; available on YouTube and concordiafaith.org/worship at 10:00am)
Christmas Eve Concert 4:30pm
Christmas Eve Worship 5:00pm

Monday, December 25th: Christmas Day Worship 10:00am

Sunday, December 31st: First Sunday of Christmas Worship (pre-recorded; available on YouTube and concordiafaith.org/worship at 10:00am)