

## 6:30 PM – Midweek Advent Service

### Order of Service

#### Saint Michael Lutheran Church

3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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First Wednesday of Advent

December 6, 2023

## Welcome

### Opening Sentences

*Pastor:* In this Advent season of waiting on the Lord, we trust in the Lord's goodness.

*People:* **We rely on His mercy. We find shelter in His steadfast love.**

*Pastor:* In this Advent season of waiting, we wait for Your salvation, O Lord.

*People:* **We wait for Your leading. We wait for Your coming.**

*Pastor:* O Lord Jesus Christ, whose first coming brought joy to Your waiting people, keep us in faith and hope as we eagerly await Your coming again. Prepare our hearts, O King of kings.

*People:* **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

### Opening Hymn

*"Prepare the Royal Highway"*

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### Prayer of Invocation

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1-3 (NIV)

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. <sup>2</sup>See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

### Music for Meditation

*"O Come, Emmanuel – Joy of the World"*

*arr. by James Koerts  
offered by Ben Ball, piano*

### Holy Gospel

John 1:35-42 (NIV)

<sup>35</sup> The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup> When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" <sup>37</sup> When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" <sup>39</sup> "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. <sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

## Sermon

*Pastor Dave Bass*

## Offering

*A special stewardship note to our guests: the ministries and work of Saint Michael Lutheran Church are supported by the generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends as they steward God's gifts. You are our GUEST today. Please do not feel compelled or pressured to make a contribution.*

Online contributions and donations can be made by clicking this link: [tinyurl.com/SMLGiving](https://tinyurl.com/SMLGiving).  
You may also mail your offerings to the church office: 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, FL 33901.

## Prayers of the Church

### Luther's Evening Prayer

**People:** 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.

### The Lord's Prayer

### Blessing

### Closing Hymn

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

*see insert*

### Postlude

*"The Lord Is Nigh"*

*arr. by Martha Sobaje*

#### Weekly Worship Schedule

Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30pm – Blue Christmas

Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30pm –kindergarten and first grade Christmas program

#### Holiday Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 17 at 10:00am – A Service of Lessons and Carols

#### **Final Weekend in Advent**

Saturday, December 23 at 5:30pm

Sunday, December 24 at 10:00am

#### **Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24**

Christmas Eve Family Worship at 5:30pm

Candlelight Services at 7:30pm and 11:00pm

#### **Christmas Day – Monday, December 25**

Christmas Day Worship at 10:00am

#### **New Year's Worship**

Saturday, December 30 at 5:30pm

Sunday, December 31 at 10:00am