



# ADVENT HOUSTON

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

22nd Sunday After Pentecost  
Proper 27

November 6, 2022

The season after Pentecost Sunday and leading up to Advent is referred to as Ordinary Time. It does not mean the time is boring and mundane, but rather “Ordinary” refers to the “ordinal” way that the church calendar counts the Sundays from Pentecost until the Season of Advent. Historically the church has used this time to more fully flesh out Christ’s work in the lives of her people, in the church as a whole, or in Christ’s Kingdom over all the earth. Robert Webber writes that during Ordinary Time,

Many worship traditions follow lectionaries that highlight the work of the Spirit in the mission of the church in the world. Other churches organize their worship life around a lectio continua, continuous readings from a given section of Scripture. Some worship traditions have also called this season ‘Kingdomtime,’ focusing on the kingdom of God that is present now and the one that will be realized in more profound ways in the future....

[Thus] the various Sundays are not connected by a particular theme. In Advent we await the coming of Christ; during Christmas, we celebrate his arrival; and at Epiphany, we proclaim that Christ is manifested to the world as Savior. During Lent, we prepare for the death; in Holy Week, we reenact his death; then in Easter, we celebrate his resurrection and complete the Easter cycle with the celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit. But in the nonfestive season of the church year, there is no unified theme that ties the Sundays together.

At Advent Houston, we want to use this “nonfestive” season to focus on our particular mission in this particular time and place that God has for particular individuals like us. We want to minister to one another in the distinct ways that we need to hear the good news of what Jesus has done, and we want to practice our faith in light of the truth that Christ has died, Christ is risen, and Christ will come again.

## REFLECTION

Now it is evident that no one can terrify or subdue us who have believed in Jesus over all the world. For it is plain that, though beheaded, crucified, thrown to wild beasts, chains, and fire, and all other kinds of torture, we do not give up our confession; instead, the more such things happen, the more others—in even larger numbers—become faithful and worshippers of God through the name of Jesus. For if someone were to cut away the fruit-bearing parts of a vine, it would grow up again and yield other branches, flourishing and fruitful. Even so, the same thing happens with us. -

**Justin Martyr**

No man is...a believer who is not a saint; and, on the other hand, no man is a saint who is not a believer. - **John Calvin**

The mark of a saint is not perfection, but consecration. A saint is not a man without faults, but a man who has given himself without reserve to God. - **Brooke Foss Westcott**

It is a kingdom which is to come, yes. But it is also a kingdom which has come. "The kingdom of God is among you" and "within you." The kingdom of God is in every true Christian. He reigns in the Church when she acknowledges Him truly. The kingdom has come, the kingdom is coming, the kingdom is yet to come. Now we must always bear that in mind. Whenever Christ is enthroned as King, the kingdom of God is come, so that, while we cannot say that He is ruling over all in the world at the present time, He is certainly ruling in that way in the hearts and lives of all His people. -

**Martin Lloyd-Jones**

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

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## \*Call to Worship – From Psalm 149

Leader: Praise the LORD!

**People: Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly!**

Leader: Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

**People: Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**

Leader: Let them praise his name with dancing,

**People: Making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!**

Leader: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;

**People: He adorns the humble with salvation!**

## \*Song – All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,

Ye ransomed from the fall,

Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,

And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe

On this terrestrial ball

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him Lord of all.

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng  
We at His feet may fall  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
And crown Him Lord of all.

## Prayer of Adoration

### Gospel Reading

Luke 6:20-31

[20] And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

[21] “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

[22] “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! [23] Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

[24] “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

[25] “Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

[26] “Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

[27] “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, [28] bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. [29] To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. [30] Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand

them back. [31] And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them. (ESV)

Leader: The Gospel of the LORD

**People: Praise be to you Lord Christ.**

## New Testament Reading

Ephesians 1:11-23

[11] In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, [12] so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. [13] In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, [14] who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

[15] For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, [18] having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might [20] that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. [22] And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (ESV)

Leader: The Word of the LORD.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## \*Song – For All the Saints

For all the saints,  
who from their labors rest,  
Who Thee by faith  
before the world confessed,  
Thy Name, O Jesus,  
be forever blessed.  
Alleluia, Allelu...

Thou wast their rock,  
their fortress and their might;  
Thou, Lord, their captain  
in the well fought fight;  
Thou, in the darkness  
drear, their one true Light.  
Alleluia, Allelu...

O may Thy soldiers,  
faithful, true and bold,  
Fight as the saints  
who nobly fought of old,  
And win with them  
the victor's crown of gold.  
Alleluia, Allelu...

The golden evening  
brightens in the west;  
Soon, soon to faithful  
warriors comes their rest;  
Sweet is the calm  
of paradise the blessed.  
Alleluia, Allelu...

But lo! There breaks  
a yet more glorious day;  
The saints triumphant  
rise in bright array;  
The King of glory  
passes on his way,  
Alleluia, Allelu...

From earth's wide bounds,  
from ocean's farthest coast,  
Through gates of pearl  
streams in the countless host,  
Singing to Father,  
Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

## \*Affirmation of Faith

## Heidelberg Catechism (Questions 54 & 55)

*(The Heidelberg Catechism is a Reformed Confessional Document written in 1563 in Heidelberg, Germany)*

Leader: What do you believe concerning “the holy catholic church”?

**ALL: I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.**

Leader: What do you understand by “the communion of saints”?

**ALL: First, that believers one and all, as members of this community, share in Christ and in all his treasures and gifts. Second, that each member should consider it a duty to use these gifts readily and joyfully for the service and enrichment of the other members.**

## Confession of Sin

**ALL: God of Mercy, despite your grace, we have sinned in thought, word, and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart:**

**We have placed our hope in things that we can see and touch.**

**We have looked for our place of belonging in the groups, patterns and relationships of this world rather than in you and in your church.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We have put people, saints or otherwise, on pedestals when only you should be there. We have torn down people, saints or otherwise, as if they were not made in your image.**

**Forgive us for the ways that we have restricted your grace. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. Renew us and lead us that we might delight in your will and walk in your ways.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

**Ephesians 1:3; 7**

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,... In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of his grace.

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

## **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father,  
And to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and every shall be  
World without end! Amen, amen.

## ADVENTURERS

CHILDREN (K - 3RD GRADE)

All kids from Kindergarten through 3rd Grade are invited to go to Adventurers, a children's lesson and activity time during the sermon. They will be escorted back to the chapel after the Passing of the Peace.

### Prayers of the People (edited from Book of Common Prayer)

Leader: Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace to follow your saints who follow Christ. Send your Spirit to all of the earth. That the whole earth might worship you, all nations might obey you, all tongues might confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere might love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

...

Leader: We pray all of this in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray, saying...

**People: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Yours is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

[1] In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel saw a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed. Then he wrote down the dream and told the sum of the matter. [2] Daniel declared, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. [3] And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. ...

[15] "As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious, and the visions of my head alarmed me. [16] I approached one of those who stood there and asked him the truth concerning all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of the things. [17] 'These four great beasts are four kings who shall arise out of the earth. [18] But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, forever and ever.' (ESV)

Leader: The Word of the LORD.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

**Rev. Taylor Leachman**

"Receiving God's Peace"

## **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The Peace of the LORD be always with you.

**People: And also with you!**

## RETURN OF CHILDREN

*During the Offertory, "ADVENTURERS" teachers will bring the children back to the Sanctuary. Feel free to pick up younger children at this time as well. You may also wait to retrieve them, as childcare is provided for the duration of the service.*

## Announcements

WE'RE SO GLAD TO HAVE YOU WORSHIP WITH US. PLEASE SIGN IN SO WE HAVE A RECORD OF YOUR ATTENDANCE.

OPTION 1: TAKE THE BLUE SIGN-IN PAD FROM UNDER THE SEAT AT THE END OF THE ROW AND RECORD YOUR INFORMATION THERE.

OPTION 2: SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA AND FILL OUT THE FORM THERE. YOU MAY ALSO DO THIS AFTER THE SERVICE.



## Offertory & Private Prayer

ALL GIVING IS A RESPONSE TO GOD'S GENEROSITY TO YOU IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE, BUT PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT JESUS OR CHRISTIANITY, OR IF YOU ARE A GUEST, WE WOULD INVITE YOU TO REFRAIN FROM GIVING AT THIS TIME.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE AT [ADVENTPRES.ORG/GIVE](https://adventpres.org/give). YOU CAN ALSO SCAN THIS QR CODE OR PLACE A GIFT IN THE OFFERING BASKET TOWARD THE ENTRANCE OF THE SANCTUARY.



# SERVICE OF THE TABLE

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## Celebration of Holy Communion

**People:** We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Nourish us, therefore, gracious Lord, so that in partaking of this sacrament of your son Jesus Christ, we may walk in newness of life, grow into his likeness, and evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

**Leader:** The LORD be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them up unto the LORD.

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the LORD, our God.

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**Leader:** It is very good and right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious Name; evermore praising you, and singing...

People:

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,'. The second staff continues with 'Hea - ven and earth are full, full of your' and 'Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the'. The third staff has 'glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -' and 'Lord.' below the notes. The fourth staff concludes with 'san - na in the high - est.' and ends with a double bar line.

### Words of Institution

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All:** Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

Leader: Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.

**People:** Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Leader: The gifts of God are for the people of God.

*Advent welcomes all baptized Christians to participate in the Lord's table. This includes all Christians, whether members at Advent or at another church. Children who have been baptized and admitted to the table by the elders of this church or the leadership of another church are also welcome to the table.*

*If you're still investigating Christianity, not sure what you believe, or simply choose not to participate, you may either remain in your seat or come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing. Feel free to use the prayers printed in the bulletin below. Non-communing children are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing while their parents receive communion.*

*We serve both wine and grape juice for communion.*

*Grape juice is available in the center of the communion trays; wine is available along the edge.*

*All communion bread is gluten free.*

**PRAYER FOR THOSE  
SEARCHING FOR TRUTH:**

LORD JESUS, YOU CLAIM TO BE THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. IF WHAT YOU CLAIM IS TRUE, PLEASE GUIDE ME, TEACH ME, AND OPEN TO ME THE REALITY OF WHO YOU ARE. GIVE ME THE ABILITY TO FOLLOW YOU NO MATTER WHAT IT MIGHT COST ME. GIVE ME AN UNDERSTANDING FOR YOU THAT IS COHERENT, CONVINCING, AND LEADS TO THE LIFE THAT YOU PROMISE. AMEN.

**PRAYER FOR THOSE  
STRUGGLING AGAINST SIN**

LORD JESUS, GIVE ME THE ABILITY TO SEE IN YOU THE FULFILLMENT OF ALL MY NEEDS AND DESIRES, AND HELP ME TO TURN FROM EVERY FALSE SOURCE OF SATISFACTION TO FEED ON YOU, THE TRUE AND LIVING BREAD. ENABLE ME TO LAY ASIDE THE SIN THAT CLINGS SO CLOSELY TO ME, AND RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE THAT YOU HAVE SET BEFORE ME, LOOKING ONLY TO YOU, THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF MY FAITH. AMEN.

**PRAYER FOR BELIEF:**

LORD JESUS, I ADMIT THAT I AM WEAKER AND MORE SINFUL THAN I EVER BELIEVED, BUT THROUGH YOU, I AM MORE LOVED AND ACCEPTED THAN I EVER DARED HOPE. I THANK YOU FOR PAYING MY DEBT, BEARING MY PUNISHMENT ON THE CROSS AND OFFERING FORGIVENESS AND NEW LIFE. KNOWING THAT YOU HAVE BEEN RAISED FROM THE DEAD AND ARE NOW REPRESENTING ME AT THE FATHER'S RIGHT HAND IN HEAVEN, I TURN FROM MY SINS AND RECEIVE YOU AS MY SAVIOR. AMEN.

## Communion Song – Abide With Me

Abide with me; falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.  
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth didst smile;  
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,  
Thou hast not left me, though I oft left Thee,  
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.  
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness  
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?  
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

## \*Closing Prayer of Thanksgiving and Mission

### \*Benediction Song – Edelweiss Benediction

May the Lord, Mighty God,  
Bless and keep you forever.  
Grant you grace, sovereign grace.  
Joy in every endeavor.

Lift your eyes and see His face  
And His love forever.  
May the Lord Mighty God  
Bless and keep you forever.

## Announcements



### **PROOF READING – THE LAST BATTLE**

*November 9th*

Join us for dinner, drinks (an alcoholic beverage inspired by our book), and a fun discussion on C.S. Lewis' *The Last Battle*. Any and all are welcome, so feel free to invite friends. Please RSVP to Taylor Leachman, [taylor.leachman@adventpres.org](mailto:taylor.leachman@adventpres.org)



**MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS' SCAVENGER HUNT**

*November 11<sup>th</sup>*

Hey Middle School Girls - Bring your friends and meet up at the Leachman's house on Friday, Nov. 11 for a Scavenger Hunt from 5:00 - 6:00 PM. Contact Josie for more information.



**LADIES FELLOWSHIP DINNER**

*November 12<sup>th</sup>*

Attention ladies of Advent! Mark your calendars for November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. We will have a fellowship dinner at the Van Meters' home.



**WOMEN'S ADVENT DINNER**

*December 3<sup>rd</sup>*

Join the women of Advent Houston for a dinner kicking off the season of Advent. We want for you to connect with other women and hear from Marcy Leachman as she teaches "Waiting For What Is To Come".



**CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY**

*December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>*

Mark your calendars for our Christmas Eve service on Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. and our Christmas Day service on Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

# MORE EVENTS



Please check out our other events by visiting our website at [www.adventpres.org/events](http://www.adventpres.org/events) or by scanning the QR code here.

## QUESTION & DISCUSSION

SCAN HERE TO SUBMIT A QUESTION FOR Q&D



Are we allowed to pray for things even if it isn't in God's plan?

answer in the comment below...



### Media Release

Advent Houston shares photos taken at our events in our monthly newsletters, on our website, or on social media for the purpose of promoting and highlighting the church's mission. By being present, you consent to being photographed and having these photos shared. For individuals who are not comfortable being visible in a shared photograph, please notify the church at [admin@adventpres.org](mailto:admin@adventpres.org) to opt out of the media release.

**Advent Presbyterian Church of Houston**

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**adventpres.org**

ADVENT'S HOUSTON EXISTS TO **EMBRACE, EMBODY, AND EXTEND** THE GRACE OF JESUS TO THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER, RICE UNIVERSITY, AND THE GREATER WEST UNIVERSITY AREA.

