



The 1st Gospel

Advent Through Isaiah's Eyes

November 30, 2016

WELCOME and RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

OPENING HYMN “O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide” [LW 32, v. 1, 2, 6]

INVOCATION

P: We begin in the name of the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

P: God of hope, who brought love into this world,

C: **Be the love that dwells between us.**

P: God of hope, who brought peace into this world,

C: **Be the peace that dwells between us.**

P: God of hope, who brought joy into this world,

C: **Be the joy that dwells between us.**

P: God of hope, the rock we stand upon,

C: **Be the center, the focus of our lives in this season of Advent. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE RADING Isaiah 7:1-16 [NIV]

¹When Ahaz son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel marched up to fight against Jerusalem, but they could not overpower it.

²Now the house of David was told, “Aram has allied itself with Ephraim”; so the hearts of Ahaz and his people were shaken, as the trees of the forest are shaken by the wind.

³Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out, you and your son Shear-Jashub, to meet Ahaz at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, on the road to the Launderer’s Field. ⁴Say to him, ‘Be careful, keep calm and don’t be afraid. Do not lose heart because of these two smoldering stubs of firewood—because of the fierce anger of Rezin and Aram and of the son of Remaliah. ⁵Aram, Ephraim and Remaliah’s son have plotted your ruin, saying, ⁶“Let us invade Judah; let us tear it apart and divide it among ourselves, and make the son of Tabeel king over it.” ⁷Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says:

“ ‘It will not take place, it will not happen, ⁸for the head of Aram is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is only Rezin. Within sixty-five years Ephraim will be too shattered to be a people. ⁹The head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is only Remaliah’s son. If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.’ ”

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

¹³Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, ¹⁶for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SERMON HYMN “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” [LW 57]

SERMON

OFFERING

“Comfort, Comfort These My People”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Organ

PEOPLE of PEACE in PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER *The Family Prayer of the People of God*

CLOSING HYMN “Sing We Now of Christmas”

LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER

POSTLUDE “Once He Came in Blessing”

J.S. Bach

SERMON: *Rev. James L. Mueller*
LITURGIST: *Rev. Morgan Hamilton*



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