

ARISE AND SHINE
Week 1: Rising Light

Arise, shine, for your light has come. Isaiah 60:1

Invocation & Call to Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?

We have the prophetic Word made more sure;

It is a lamp shining in a dark place.

The day will dawn and the Morning Star will rise in our hearts!

So we proclaim the praises of him

Who called us out of darkness—

Into his marvelous light!

Hymn

The Advent of Our King

(to the tune of: "Let Justice Flow Like Streams" ELW 717)

*The advent of our King our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing in strains of holy joy.*

*The everlasting Son incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on to set his servants free.*

*O Zion's daughter, rise to meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise the peace he comes to bring.*

*As judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come again
And his true members all unite with him in heav'n to reign.*

*Before the dawning day let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, the new self now put on.*

*All glory to the Son, who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one through all eternity.*

Confession and Absolution

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

**If we claim to have fellowship with him, yet walk in the darkness,
We lie and do not live by the truth.**

**But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,
We have fellowship with one another,
And the blood of Jesus his Son purifies us from sin.**

Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

**Most holy and mighty Father, we have sinned against you by
what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have
not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our
neighbors as ourselves. We have run from your ways and em-
braced the darkness of this present evil age. Forgive us for the
sake of Jesus Christ your only Son and our only Savior.**

People of God, if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
In Jesus' name, you are forgiven and loved with an everlasting love!
Arise, shine, for your light has come!
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protec-
tion alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for
your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has
risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness
the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear
over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness

of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Epistle Reading: Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:68, 74-79

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

⁷⁴that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

⁷⁸By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
 let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
 down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
 wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy
 and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"
 shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 one and all, to be for - giv'n;
 and with words of love draw near.
 while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Sermon

Prayer

Thankful for the unfading Light of Christ who has come to save us, let us pray for the Church in all places, for the world, and for the confession of the Gospel, that by his light we may go into all the world saying,

"The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it."

Lord of Light, you know that we lose heart, we dwell in the darkness and live in the valley of the shadow of death. Point us to Jesus, whose resurrection announces that,

"The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it."

Lord of Light, give us your Holy Spirit, that by him we may be strengthened in our praying, encouraged by his wisdom and sustained in faithful supplication for those who stand in need of our prayers.

May these people, too, confess that,
“The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?”

Lord of Light, you healed the sick, cured the lame, gave sight to the blind, restored hearing to the deaf and delivered those who were held in bondage by the devil. Give to our church the zeal and boldness to reach out into our world and say,

“The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?”

Lord of Light, you were born among us as the Light of the world. Shine in our hearts during this Advent season. Savior, Light of the world, we entrust to you all for whom we pray, commending them to you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

**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

Arise, shine, for your light has come!
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you!
The Lord is my light and my salvation—
**Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of
whom shall I be afraid?**

Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

ELW 254



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835