

A SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER  
First Week of Advent  
December 2, 1986

Organ Prelude (a time for silence and meditation)

\*Call to Worship

L: Praise the Lord.

P: THE LORD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

P: GOD'S LOVE ENDURES FOREVER. ALLELUIA.

\*Hymn No. 363 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

\*Opening Prayer (in unison)

O God, source of all beauty and goodness, your grace comes fresh every morning. In each new day you give us light. We praise you for your never-failing love that satisfies our needs and shows us the way to follow. We rejoice in your constant care, for you are faithful in love for all people, offering your salvation through Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Reading from the Daily Office

Isaiah 1:21-31

\*Psalmody Psalm 5

L: Give ear to my words, O Lord;

R: Consider my meditation.

L: Hearken to my cry for help, my King and my God,

R: for I make my prayer to you.

L: In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice;

R: early in the morning I make my appeal and watch for you.

L: For you are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,

R: and evil cannot dwell with you.

L: Braggarts cannot stand in your sight;

R: You hate all those who work wickedness.

L: You destroy those who speak lies;

R: the bloodthirsty and deceitful, O Lord, you abhor.

L: But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy I will go into your house;

R: I will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.

L: Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness, because of those who lie in wait for me,

R: make your way straight before me.

L: For there is no truth in their mouth;

R: there is destruction in their heart.

L: Their throat is an open grave,

R: they flatter with their tongue.

L: Declare them guilty, O God;

R: let them fall because of their schemes.

L: Because of their many transgressions cast them out,

R: for they have rebelled against you.

L: But all who take refuge in you will be glad,

R: they will sing out their joy for ever.

L: You will shelter them,

R: so that those who love your Name may exalt in you.

L: For you, O Lord, will bless the righteous,

R: you will defend them with your favor as with a shield.

Sermon

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

\*Hymn No. 298 "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

\*Dismissal

L: Be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous and strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

P: AMEN.

L: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

P: AMEN.

\*Sharing of Christ's Peace

Organ Postlude

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Preacher  
Reader  
Liturgist

Steve Long  
Melissa Johnson  
Paul Sittason-Stark