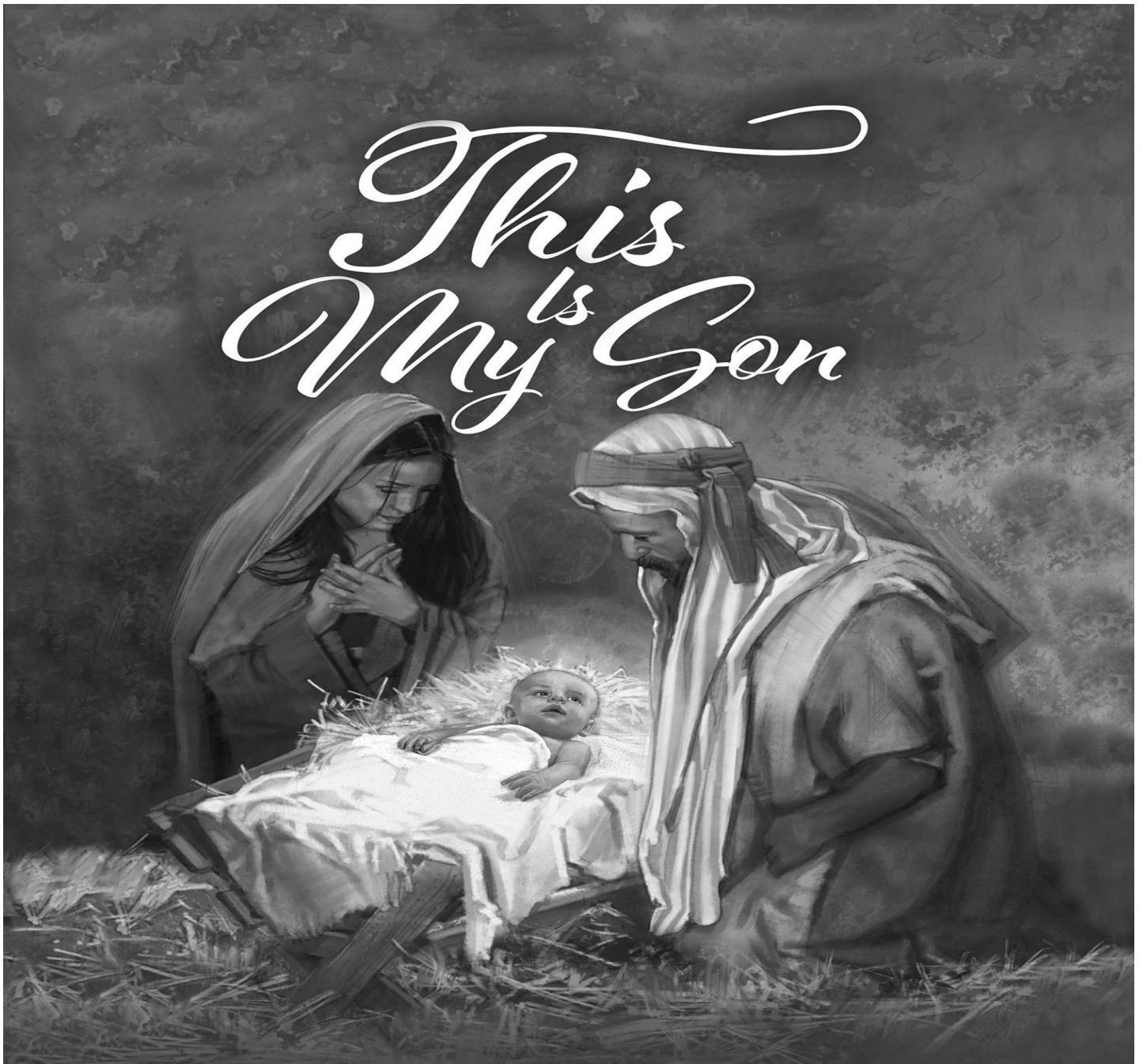


# *This is My Son*



ADVENT WORSHIP

DECEMBER 7, 2022

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
SERBIN, TX

# ISHMAEL

Our Advent expectation continues as we wait to celebrate the gift of God's promised Son to be our Savior. Like us, Abraham struggled as God's promise seemed less likely to come about, especially as the years passed into decades. As our faith may at times grow weak, we are tempted to take matters into our own hands, only to discover that our efforts fail. That is one reason we are here again this day, in order that God's Word and Spirit strengthen our faith, even in the face of all doubts, to wait upon God's sure and gracious promises. The true Son of Abraham is the One whom God has sent and designated, saying, "This is My beloved Son." Jesus brings all of God's promises together to make us sons and daughters of God. Believe it. Live it.

## **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

## **RINGING OF THE BELLS**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Stand*

## **OPENING SENTENCES**

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** **and my mouth will declare Your praise.**
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** **make haste to help me, O Lord.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.**

## **PSALM**

## **PSALM 25**

- P** Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
- C** **Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God.**
- P** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- C** **O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.**
- P** Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
- C** **Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.**
- P** Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.
- C** **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P** Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!
- C** **Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.**
- P** He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.
- C** **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.**
- P** For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.
- C** **Who is the man who fears the LORD? Him will He instruct in the way that He should choose.**
- P** His soul shall abide in wellbeing, and his offspring shall inherit the land.
- C** **The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him, and He makes known to them His covenant.**

- P** My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.
- C** **Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.**
- P** The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.
- C** **Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.**
- P** Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.
- C** **Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me! Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in You.**
- P** May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You.
- C** **Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.**  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Sit*

**HYMN: ♪“A MULTITUDE COMES FROM THE EAST AND THE WEST” LSB 510**

- 1 A multitude comes from the east and the west  
 To sit at the feast of salvation  
 With Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the blest,  
 Obeying the Lord’s invitation.  
 Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**
- 2 O God, let us hear when our Shepherd shall call  
 In accents persuasive and tender,  
 That while there is time we make haste, one and all,  
 And find Him, our mighty defender.  
 Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**
- 3 All trials shall be like a dream that is past,  
 Forgotten all trouble and mourning.  
 All questions and doubts have been answered at last,  
 When rises the light of that morning.  
 Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**
- 4 The heavens shall ring with an anthem more grand  
 Than ever on earth was recorded.  
 The blest of the Lord shall receive at His hand  
 The crown to the victors awarded.  
 Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**

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**FIRST READING**

**GENESIS 16**

- P** A reading from Genesis, the sixteenth chapter.
- Now Sarai, Abram’s wife, had borne him no children. She had a female Egyptian servant whose name was Hagar. And Sarai said to Abram, “Behold now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife. And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. And Sarai said to Abram, “May the wrong done to

me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!" But Abram said to Sarai, "Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her.

The angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. And He said, "Hagar, servant of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?" She said, "I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai." The angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her." The angel of the LORD also said to her, "I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude." And the angel of the LORD said to her, "Behold, you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the LORD has listened to your affliction.

He shall be a wild donkey of a man, his hand against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen."

So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen Him who looks after me." Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

And Hagar bore Abram a son, and Abram called the name of his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING**

**GALATIANS 4:21-5:1**

**P** A reading from Galatians, the fourth and fifth chapters.

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. For it is written, "Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear; break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than those of the one who has a husband."

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. But what does the Scripture say? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman." So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## **THIRD READING**

**LUKE 3:1-9**

**P** A reading from Luke, the third chapter.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of

repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORY FOR ADVENT**

**P** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

**G** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

**G** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**G** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**G** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life  $\text{†}$  everlasting. Amen.**

### **SERMON: "THIS IS MY SON: ISHMAEL"**

By Pastor John Schmidt

### *Stand*

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**G** **Amen.**

### **ANTIPHON**

**P** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

**G** **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

### **MAGNIFICAT**

**P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

**G** **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.**

**P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

**G** **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;**

- P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
- G** **He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**
- P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
- G** **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.**
- P** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
- G** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**

- G** **♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

*Sit*

**OFFERING**

*As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.*

**OFFERING HYMN: ♪ "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN**

**LSB 781 V. 1-2**

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!**

**KYRIE**

- G** **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

- G** **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.**

**COLLECTS**

- P** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- G** **And let my cry come to You.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

- P** Almighty God, You have granted precious and great promises to all who believe, all things that pertain to life and godliness. Focus our faith on the knowledge of Him who has called us to His own glory that we may be Your true sons and daughters in Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

## **ADDITIONAL COLLECTS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING**

### **COLLECT**

**P** Lord God, You demonstrated Your might and grace by providing Your servants Abraham and Sarah with a son of Your own promise. Guide our faith to be always in the true Son of Abraham, Your only Son, Jesus, the promise of our salvation and life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **COLLECT FOR PEACE**

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **BENEDICAMUS**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN: ♪“LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD**

**LSB 352**

- 1 Let the earth now praise the Lord,  
Who has truly kept His word  
And at last to us did send  
Christ, the sinner’s help and friend.**
- 2 What the fathers most desired,  
What the prophets’ heart inspired,  
What they longed for many\_a year,  
Stands fulfilled in glory here.**
- 3 Abram’s promised great reward,  
Zion’s helper, Jacob’s Lord—  
Him of twofold race behold—  
Truly came, as long foretold.**
- 4 As Your coming was in peace,  
Quiet, full of gentleness,  
Let the same mind dwell in me  
Which is Yours eternally.**

**5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
That, set free from doubt and dread,  
I may cling to You in faith,  
Safely kept through life and death.**

**6 Then when You will come again  
As the glorious king to reign,  
I with joy will see Your face,  
Freely ransomed by Your grace.**

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### ***SILENT PRAYER***

### ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

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