

Advent One
Year of the Lord 2019

**“Holy Spirit, Light Divine, shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away; turn the darkness into day!”
“Let me see my Savior’s face; let me all HIS beauties trace!
Show those glorious truths to me which are only known to
Thee!”**

Matthew 21:1–11 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying, ⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion, **‘Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’**”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

In the Name of Jesus:

‘In the Name of...’ ‘In the Name of...’

Dr Martin Luther spoke, wrote a funny German. I need time to bring out the treasures new and old from the storeroom of the Small Catechism.

‘How a Father of family should teach those who are his own, morning and evening---to BLESS THEMSELVES!’

Heavenly Benediction—M...E...A...N...I...N...G...--HEAVEN ignores, morning and evening, any other evaluation of you, me, the world. HE has His own standard: ‘See, your KING comes to you—and WHAT a King! No place that lasts as this world lasts, for a King Whose name is ‘HUMBLE!’

The Kind Words about us from the King Who takes OUR abuse of Him—WE, acting, thinking, throwing FITS, as if HIS KINGDOM is still COMPETING to make its SPLASH among the kingdoms of men’s puny power: Herod, Caesar, Pilate, armed soldiers, bribe-money....Saint Matthew records them all! We are DISTRACTED, morning and evening—M...E...A...N...I...N...G...ALL THE LIVELONG DAY!....

By F...O...R...C...E...S...that are opposite of ‘HUMBLE!’

Ah!!! The Kind Words—The Small Catechism of Doctor Martin Luther:

Des walt Gott Vater, Sohn, heiliger Geist, Amen!

We been learned to mouth the words, ‘In the Name of the Father, etc.’

Des Walt! ‘According to the REIGN; during the RULE; So-says the kingdom of the Father of the Humble King, the Humble King His Son; HOLY—M...E...A...N...I...N...G...!’—Oh! My dear ones! ‘holy’ MUST MEAN... ‘HUMBLE, LOWLY, CRUSHED, SLAPPED TO NEXT WEDNESDAY TO S.T.R.I.P Geist OF ALL WHAT THIS WORLD CALLS P...O...W...E...R!!!’

Des Walt Gott Vater, Sohn, heiliger Geist, Oh Yeah!

M...E...A...N...I...N...G...:

This morning to this evening, then on to the Yet more glorious Day, when the King of Glory passes on His way:

I am charged to IGNORE...MY...ETSIMTATION...OF...ME!

And, instead, read these words as written over ME:

²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. ²⁸ And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, ²⁹ and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. ³¹ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

³² As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. ³³ And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), ³⁴ they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. ³⁵ And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. ³⁶ Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. ³⁷ And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." ³⁸ Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, ⁴² "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. ⁴³ He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.' " ⁴⁴ And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. ¹

¹ [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Mt 27:27–44). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

In chapter 11 of the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the One Born King of the Jews, whose star the Magi saw in the East, leading them to king Herod, to worship a whole new kind of King—and Herod drew his puny, little sword...B...O...R...I...N...G...if still violent and bloody, causing tears....

The prophet from Galilee spoke of the prophet from the Jordan River, HIS prophet, fit for such a King:

¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force.²

My dear disciples, friends, family: The Spirit Who has made His home with you—HE is the One Who sets your antennae twitching when...you...hear...THIS...KING...USE...THE...WORD...FOR CCCCEEEEE!!!!

‘Violence’ too.

At our Wednesday Vepsers, I pray I may expound a bit what the prophet Isaiah tells us today about all things ‘high and lifted up’ made NEW for us...but I cannot assume the King will wait that many more days before answering our prayer: ‘Come!’

But for today, let me wrap up where I began: with the Small Catechism of Doctor Martin Luther.

Not only are we called out with all boldness and confidence to IGNORE the Law, IGNORE the devil, IGNORE what charms us most, and value what we value LEAST...!

² [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Mt 11:11–12). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

But then... 'WE could not be MORE DEAR to the Father; and God is ONLY HAPPY when HE is MADE DEAR and FATHER...by us!'

Daughter Rachel has clued me into the main problem my grandson, Samuel Paul, has in this life. It must be hard for the little guy to be PERFECT!

Boy, is he ever turning PERFECT-ER, approaching PERFECT-EST!

What did Old King Cole do, the merry old soul? 'He called for his pipe and he called for his bowl and he called for his fiddlers three!'

God bless the wizards who finally made crystal balls to see to even to the North Pole, where my Samuel Paul, my grandson, lives!

The little tyrant is P...E...R...F...E...C...T...L...Y fit to do violence to the Kingdom that is God! He calls for his bowl; he calls for his spoon; he calls for his attendants to dash to pick up what HE fwows to the gound! But—for his perfection—they are learning NOT to jump to and dance to his fiddle! Surely you have seen such little tyrants express their displeasure and not being served thus! 'THAT's where Herod got it! Caesar, Pilate, the armed guards....'

Good thing they drowned the little Herod scant weeks after HIS first diapers, in the waters of Holy Baptism!

Good thing you and I have been buried with Christ and raised with Him also—and He is NOT INTERESTED...IN...OUR...ORIENTATION...TOWARD...HI
MMMMMMMMM!!!!!!

So WE are FREE to CONFESS:

I don't think they are doing a very good job taking care of me: not my Father, not the Son—Who is SUPPOSED to be in CHARGE!—nor the Spirit Who never seems to make ME any more OUTSTANDING than this world's bullies!

It's as if each Person of the Blessed Holy Trinity is PLEASED AS PUNCH when the deeper I DIG inside ME, I find it's bully upon bully, all the way down...

It's as if God is United as ONE in utter serenity—that I may both stuff myself with this world's idols, frow them to the ground, then blame HEAVEN for MY...DIS-SATISFACTION....

And yet this crushed and violated, humble King, was pleased to reveal—think of this, dear ones! NOT ONLY did God reveal this to the GERMANS! MY people are from WAY across the sea, in NORWAY! And we violent VIKINGS have been taught by Doctor Martin Luther, too! And now, in Louisiana? THERE...IS...A...GOD! A STRANGE ONE! A humble one!

Morning and evening He teaches us to be glad in the Kingdom He is ruling, quite calm, happy, at peace.

And by our Baptism 'des Walt'—from HIS rule, according to HIS way of reigning—

He is not at ALL interested how well or how poorly we, His dear children, turn calm, happy or peaceful.

He is SO strange, He teaches us to SCHOOL HIM, to TUTOR Heaven:

‘OK, God, my dear Father. Watch the way I PARDON those who have done ME violence; and then—no matter how long it takes YOU to learn: pardon MY violence against you in the Name of Jesus!’ Oh Yeah!