

[A Colorful Complement](#)

*by Rev. Doug Escue, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Santa Fe, N.M.
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Color, like music, plays an important role in worship. Liturgical color complements the message of the seasons during the church year and aids in establishing a climate in which Law and Gospel may be heard.

However, color can easily be taken for granted or mistaken in its purpose. The paraments, vestments, altar clothes and banners must be seen as more than decoration.

- **Blue**, used at [Advent](#), communicates the message of hope, Our Christian faith rests on the hope that Christ, who came in history assuming our flesh, will return on the last day from that same blue sky into which He ascended long ago.
- **Green**, is used during the seasons of [Epiphany](#) and Pentecost. It is appointed color for [Epiphany's](#) message of Christ's revelation to the gentiles and growing His kingdom through missions. Green is the color of growth. The Sundays following Pentecost emphasize our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- The calendar calls for **black** only twice: on [Good Friday](#) and [Ash Wednesday](#). There's no mistaking the message that this sober color gives. Black is the absence of light. These are times for reflection on the cost of our redemption.
- **Gold** is the optional color for [Easter](#) Sunday. It is also suggested for the last Sunday of the church year – Christ the King Sunday. It represents value and growth. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ gives our lives meaning and worth.
- Scarlet is called for during the [Holy Week](#), from [Palm Sunday](#) to [Maundy Thursday](#). It is associated with the passion – the color of blood.
- **Purple**, like black, is a penitential color. It is used during the [Lent](#) and, in many parishes, during [Advent](#). This deep rich color represents somberness, penitence and prayer.
- White is the color of purity and completeness. Used primarily during the 50 days of [Easter](#), it bears the message that "though yours sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow." His purity before His Father becomes our purity.
- White is also used for [Christmas](#) and its 12 days, [Epiphany](#) and the first Sunday following it, Transfiguration Sunday and Holy Trinity Sunday.
- **Red** is a power color. It is appropriate for [Pentecost](#) Sunday when we remember the power and fire of "the Lord and Giver of Life," who reveal Himself as the Promised One.

Hymn of the Day LSB 332 TLH 95
“Savior of the nations, come”

Scripture References: st. 1-3 = Luke 1:26-45 st. 4 = Phil. 2:6-11

“As attested by Augustine in 372, as well as by other early writers, **Ambrose** wrote this hymn in Latin (“Veni, Redemptor gentium”) in the fourth century. The text appears in a number of eighth- and ninth-century manuscripts. Martin Luther (b. Eisleben, Saxony, Germany, 1483; d. Eisleben, 1546) translated this text into German (“Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland”) in 1523 and included it in the Erfurt *Enchiridia* (1524). Consequently “Savior of the Nations” has become possibly the best known of the Lutheran Advent hymns... Stanzas 1-3 explain in hymn form what the Apostles’ Creed confesses: he was “conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary” (see also Luke 1:26-45). Stanza 4 alludes to Philippians 2:6-11, which speaks of Christ’s humiliation and exaltation. Stanza 5 is a prayer for faithfulness, and stanza 6 is a plea that Christ continue to intercede for his people. Stanza 7, a doxology, points to Christ’s second coming and the coming of his eternal “lasting kingdom.” ...

Ambrose (b. Treves, Germany, 340; d. Milan, Italy, 397), one of the great Latin church fathers, is remembered ... for ... his introduction of metrical and antiphonal singing into the Western church.... The influence of Martin Luther was ...important in the worship and music of the church...

Luther also became involved in the reformation of the worship of the church. It is generally recognized that in his liturgy Luther remained much closer to the Roman Catholic Church than did Calvin. However, both his Latin Mass ("Formula missae," 1523) and German Mass ("Deutscher messe," 1526) incorporated the basic teachings of the Reformation and became the model of worship for later Lutheran (and other) churches. Luther also promoted congregational singing ...Luther was a fine singer and lute player, and his love of music influenced the Lutheran tradition....

--*Psalter Hymnal Handbook*" www.hymnary.org

www.biblica.com

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There are plenty of things to wrestle with in the Bible. Your translation shouldn't be one of them.”

Isaiah 64:1-9 (next week –Isaiah 40:1-11)

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New International Version (NIV)

1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!

2 As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you!

3 For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

4 Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

5 You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who

English Standard Version (ESV)

1 Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence--

2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence!

3 When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

4 From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

5 You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who

remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved?

6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

7 No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away because of our sins.

8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

9 Do not be angry beyond measure, O LORD; do not remember our sins forever. Oh, look upon us, we pray, for we are all your people.

remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?

6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

7 There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.

8 But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

9 Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

Psalm 80: 1-7 (*Psalm 85*)

1 Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock; you who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth

2 before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us.

3 Restore us, O God; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.

4 O LORD God Almighty, how long will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.

6 You have made us a source of contention to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us.

1 Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

2 Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

3 Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

4 O LORD God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

6 You make us an object of contention for our neighbors, and our enemies laugh among themselves.

7 Restore us, O God Almighty;
make your face shine upon us,
that we may be saved.

I Corinthians 1:3-9 (2 Peter 3:8-14)

3 Grace and peace to you from
God our Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ.

4 I always thank God for you
because of his grace given you
in Christ Jesus.

5 For in him you have been
enriched in every way--in all
your speaking and in all your
knowledge--

6 because our testimony about
Christ was confirmed in you.

7 Therefore you do not lack any
spiritual gift as you eagerly wait
for our Lord Jesus Christ to be
revealed.

8 He will keep you strong to the
end, so that you will be
blameless on the day of our

7 Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we
may be saved!

3 Grace to you and peace
from God our Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

4 I give thanks to my God
always for you because of the
grace of God that was given
you in Christ Jesus,

5 that in every way you were
enriched in him in all speech
and all knowledge--

6 even as the testimony about
Christ was confirmed among
you--

7 so that you are not lacking
in any spiritual gift, as you
wait for the revealing of our
Lord Jesus Christ,

8 who will sustain you to the
end, guiltless in the day of our
Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus Christ.

9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Mark 13:24-37 (*Mark 1:1-8*)

24 "But in those days, following that distress, " 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light;

25 the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

26 "At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.

27 And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

28 "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come

9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

24 "But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,

25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

26 And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.

27 And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out

out, you know that summer is near.

29 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door.

30 I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.

31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

32 "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

33 Be on guard! Be alert ! You do not know when that time will come.

34 It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep

its leaves, you know that summer is near.

29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.

30 Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

32 "But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

33 Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.

34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the

watch.

35 "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back--whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn.

36 If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping.

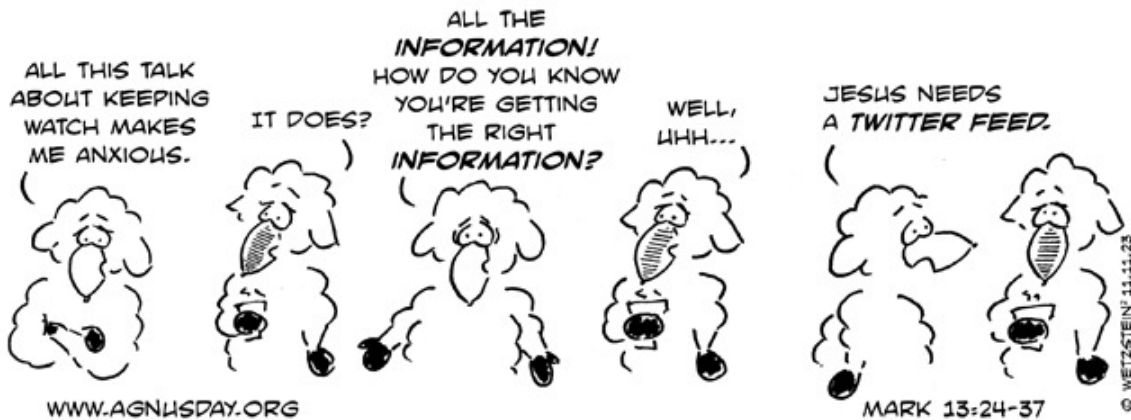
37 What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!' "

doorkeeper to stay awake.

35 Therefore stay awake--for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning--

36 lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

37 And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake."



Class schedule information for Advent 2014

Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day are all on a Thursday this year. The "Living the Lectionary" class will only be on Saturday evenings (7:00 pm) for each of those weeks. Materials for the week should be available at the Wednesday Advent services. On Saturdays through January 6, the church will be open at 6:00 pm for those who would like to bring along their supper and enjoy some fellowship before class.