

Old Orchard Church  
First Sunday of Advent  
November 27, 2011 – 10:15–11:50 a.m.

*The catastrophe in Eden*

(woodcut by Hans Holbein the Younger, Strasbourg, France [1529])

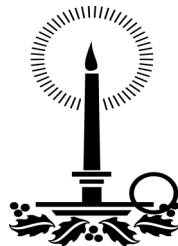
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**Arise, Shine, For Your Light Is Come**

By Eric Glass  
(Choir sings stanzas)

**Congregation joins in on the Refrain:**

Arise, shine, for your light is come,  
and the glory of the Lord is risen.  
O arise, shine, for your light is come,  
and the glory of the Lord is upon you.



**Cover art:** medieval manuscript of the Agnus Dei: “**Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**”

**Songs:** “Come and Stand Amazed” a medieval Dutch carol translated by Klaas Hart (© 1987 CRC Publications, Admin. by Faith Alive Christian Resources. All rights reserved. CCLI #188763.) Words to “Arise, Shine, For Your Light Is Come “ is in the public domain.

**There are three comings of our Lord:**

**The first in the flesh.  
The second in the soul.  
The third in the judgment.**

**The first coming was humble and hidden;  
The second is mysterious and full of love.  
The third will be majestic and terrible.**

**In his first, a lamb;  
In his third, a lion;  
In the one between the two,  
The tenderest of friends.**

*Peter of Blois, France, 12th century*

# Celebrating the First Coming of Jesus Christ: In the Flesh

*and the Baptism of Edwin Owen Gentry*

See how great the love of the Father  
that in the ripeness of time  
He should send the Son.

See how tender the love of the Son  
that in the fragileness of infancy  
he should even come.

See our humanness exalted  
as God Himself takes flesh;  
See our unholiness purified  
as God takes flesh to die.

Blessed be our Savior,  
Humble and hidden in his First Coming.  
Blessed be the promised Lamb who was slain,  
For in His Death we live. Alleluia!



## Today's Scripture

Old Testament Prophecy: Isaiah 11:1-10

Gospel Reading: John 1:19-31

## Sermon

“A Desert Ascetic In the Hand of God”

Matthew 3:1-17

*Russ Tamm, seminary intern, preaching*

## Come and Stand Amazed

Come and stand amazed you people,  
See how God is reconciled!  
See his plans of love accomplished,  
See His gift, this newborn child.  
See the Mighty, weak and tender,  
See the Word who now is mute.  
See the Sovereign without splendor,  
See the Fullness destitute;  
The Beloved, whom we covet,  
In a state of low repute

See how humankind received Him;  
See Him wrapped in swaddling bands,  
Who as Lord of all creation  
Rules the wind by His commands.  
See Him lying in a manger  
Without sign of reasoning;  
Word of God to flesh surrendered,  
He is wisdom's crown, our King.  
See how tender our Defender  
At whose birth the angels sing.

O Lord Jesus, God incarnate,  
Who assumed this humble form,  
Counsel me and let my wishes  
To your perfect will conform.  
Light of life, dispel my darkness,  
Let your frailty strengthen me;  
Let your meekness give me boldness,  
Let your burden set me free;  
Let your sadness give me gladness,  
Let your death be life for me.  
—*medieval Dutch carol*



We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**