

The Hymn of the Day for the First Sunday in Advent is “The Savior of the Nations, Come” (LSB # 332)

The opening verse begins with a plea for a Savior of all nations to come to earth and save people from their sins. Jesus leaves his perfect heavenly home and takes on the limitations of human flesh in a sinful world. It was a choice on the part of Jesus to fulfill the perfect plan of salvation for the whole world.

The third person of the Trinity comes to the fore in verse 2. It is the Holy Spirit by whom Jesus was conceived.

Verse 3 explains the role that Mary played. God did not choose some rich and famous lady to be the mother of Jesus. Mary was a teenage unmarried girl. It is within Mary, that God was present on his throne.

Verse 4 reminds us of what Jesus gave up. It shows what a heroic course Jesus took to come and save us.

Verse 5 details Jesus’ journey from heaven and his Father to his suffering death and resurrection including a brief visit to proclaim victory over all evil angels. When his earthly ministry was complete, he returned to his heavenly home.

Verse 6 speaks of his mighty healing acts for all of our ills of flesh and our soul. He still is with us in the midst of all that ails us as well as continually strengthening our faith so that our soul is well.

Verse 7 reminds us of how the sky lid up as the angels’ praise rang out on night Jesus was born. He is our light as well as he gives us his word to lead us in our daily journey.

We join in Simeon’s words “*for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel*” Luke 2:29-32 as we sing a doxology in verse 8.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for making such intricate plans to save us from our sins. Thank you for using just the right people at the right time to carry out your perfect plan of salvation. Amen