



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church**
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Message from the Interim Pastor:

“He was, he is, and he will come again.”

The word “*Advent*” comes from the Latin word “*adventus*” which means “*a coming, an approach, or an arrival.*” When we expect guests to arrive at our homes, we turn the lights on; we anticipate their arrival and welcome them with joy. That is the spirit of this new season we enter now called **Advent**.

In Advent, we prepare our homes and churches as we joyfully anticipate Jesus **three-fold** arrival or coming into our lives. In some of our liturgies, we say, “***He was, he is, and he will come again.***”

He was... As we light more candles each of the weeks of Advent, the light gets brighter as we near the celebration of Jesus’ first coming into our world two thousand years ago. On Christmas day, we celebrate the day on which the ***Light of the World*** was born.

He is... We also know and remember that Jesus, just before he returned to his heavenly kingdom, promised “***I am with you always...***” He told his followers then and his words ring true for us today that he will be with us day by day until the end of time.

He will come again... Advent also reminds us that Jesus said he will come again, on the last day. We profess in our creed each week, “*he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*”

“He was, he is, and he will come again.”

Advent wreaths and candles are commonly seen in many Christian churches and homes during this liturgical season. Each week we light another candle bringing more and more of the light of Christ into our devotions and worship. It is a season of preparation, of waiting, of watching. We not only gather for Sunday morning worship at 10:30 a.m., but we will come together on the Wednesdays of Advent (December 3, 10, 17) at 3:00 p.m. for special Advent devotions and inspiration, followed by a shared meal.

All are always welcome. Join us as we worship the **One who was, is, and will come again.**

+Pastor Murray D. Finck

The Rev Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus