**WORSHIP**

**WHERE HEAVEN MEETS EARTH**

**Session Three, Advent III, 16 December 2018**

**Opening:**

Invocation – Baptism (see *Gathered*, 137-138)

Venite (Psalm 95:1-7a) – Matins (LSB, 220-221); see *Gathered*, 389-393

Dr. Luther’s Morning Prayer (LSB, 327; also, Evening Prayer)

**Brief Review:**

Resources

Worship worth remembering . . . return of “homework”

Multiple “ears,” differing agendas

**Advent is not Christmas:**

Differentiating a holiday from holy days – see *Gathered*, 57-59

Beyond the moment, End Time; repentance

Blue (Mary, royalty, hope) . . . Violet (penitence) – see *Gathered,* 195-197

The influence of Vatican II (1962-65)

**Advent - “to come”** (see *Gathered*, 61-63):

Came – promise and fulfillment; Jesus

Comes – Word and Sacraments

Is Coming – End Time

**Advent Hymns:** For hymns in general, see *Gathered*, 274-279

LSB 333, “Once He Came in Blessing”

The three “comings” and a prayer for coming

LSB 342, “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”

Promises and fulfillment; Jesus; already, not yet

LSB 345, “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

John the Baptizer as prophet (End Time) and herald (Jesus)

The merging of came, comes, and is coming

**Closing Prayer:** Collect for Advent III

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore you to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***LOOKING AHEAD***

*12-23, a sampler of Christmas Hymns*

*(No sessions will be held on December 30 and January 6 [special mission program])*

*1-13, Epiphany and Baptism*