

Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd

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The Third Sunday in Advent, December 11th, 2022

Included in the Prayer of the Church: Keith Basanta, Ruby Patrick, Jack Zacharias, Lorraine Osadchuk, Walter Harder, Irma Barten, Gary Edel, Dorothy Quiring, Bruce & Carol Bird, Wally Funk, Rick Fenske, Abe Hiebert, Rev. Alvin and Jean Borchardt, William Fenske, Pastor Schollenberg and family.

The Order of Service: Divine Service Setting One,
Opening Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 151
LSB 338

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt. Text: Public domain

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

G **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

G **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **Amen.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

I will hope continually
and will praise You yet more and more.

My mouth will tell of Your Righteous Acts, of Your deeds of salvation all the day,
for their number is past my knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;
I will remind them of Your Righteousness, Yours alone.

O God, from my youth You have taught me,
and I still proclaim Your wondrous Deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim Your might to another generation, Your power to all those to come.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise {Omitted during Advent}

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, "**Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.**" ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 146; antiphon: v. 5

¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

³Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴**When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

⁵Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

⁶**Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, Who keeps faith forever;**

⁷Who executes justice for the oppressed, Who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners; He upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.

¹⁰**The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

The Epistle Lesson

James 5:7-11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the Name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Choir: Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to Him, **“Are You The One Who is to come, or shall we look for another?”** ⁴And Jesus answered them, **“Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have Good News preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.”**

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: **“What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.’ ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.**

¹⁵**He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Message: A Time for Joy!

Isaiah 35:1-10

Sit

Hymn of the Day: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!
 "Christ is near," we hear it say.
 "Cast away the works of darkness,
 All you children of the day!"
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,
 Let the earthbound soul arise;
 Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,
 Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,
 Comes with pardon down from heav'n.
 Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
 One and all, to be forgiv'n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory
 And the world is wrapped in fear,
 He will shield us with His mercy
 And with words of love draw near.
- △ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion
 To the Father and the Son
 With the ever-living Spirit
 While eternal ages run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Sermon: Bringing Life to the Wilderness!**Isaiah 35:1-10***Stand***The Nicene Creed**

LSB 158

- ☩ I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,**

**who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering: The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

LSB 348

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.
- 2 Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159

- ☐ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the Name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the Name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Preface

LSB 160

Sanctus

LSB 161

- ☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

The Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

The Lord's Prayer

- ☐ Our Father Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth**

as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Pax Domini

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

G Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

LSB 402

The Only Son from Heaven

- 1 The only Son from heaven,
Foretold by ancient seers,
By God the Father given,
In human form appears.
No sphere His light confining,
No star so brightly shining
As He, our Morning Star.
- 2 O time of God appointed,
O bright and holy morn!
He comes, the king anointed,
The Christ, the virgin-born,
Grim death to vanquish for us,
To open heav'n before us
And bring us life again.
- 3 O Lord, our hearts awaken
To know and love You more,
In faith to stand unshaken,
In spirit to adore,
That we, through this world moving,
Each glimpse of heaven proving,
May reap its fullness there.
- △ 4 O Father, here before You
With God the Holy Ghost
And Jesus, we adore You,
O pride of angel host:
Before You mortals lowly
Cry, "Holy, holy, holy,
O blessed Trinity!"

Text (sts. 1-3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500-1535; (sts. 1-3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978 Text: Public domain

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

- 1 The gifts Christ freely gives
He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride,
His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts
Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ
And cling to His strong name.
- 2 The gifts flow from the font
Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes
Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins
With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself
Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
- 3 The gifts of grace and peace
From absolution flow;
The pastor's words are Christ's
For us to trust and know.
Forgiveness that we need
Is granted to us there;
The Lord of mercy sends
Us forth in His blest care.
- 4 The gifts are there each day
The holy Word is read;
God's children listen, hear,
Receive, and they are fed.
Christ fills them with Himself,
Blest words that give them life,
Restoring and refreshing
Them for this world's strife.
- 5 The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev'ry sin;
We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.
- 6 All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
 Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
 Come into the daylight's splendor,
 There with joy your praises render.
 Bless the One whose grace unbounded
 This amazing banquet founded;
 He, though heav'nly, high, and holy,
 Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him,
 And with loving rev'ence greet Him.
 For with words of life immortal
 He is knocking at your portal.
 Open wide the gates before Him,
 Saying, as you there adore Him:
 Grant, Lord, that I now receive You,
 That I nevermore will leave You.
- 3 He who craves a precious treasure
 Neither cost nor pain will measure;
 But the priceless gifts of heaven
 God to us has freely given.
 Though the wealth of earth were proffered,
 None could buy the gifts here offered:
 Christ's true body, for you riven,
 And His blood, for you once given.
- 4 Now in faith I humbly ponder
 Over this surpassing wonder
 That the bread of life is boundless
 Though the souls it feeds are countless:
 With the choicest wine of heaven
 Christ's own blood to us is given.
 Oh, most glorious consolation,
 Pledge and seal of my salvation!
- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
 Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
 Peace beyond all understanding,
 Joy into all life expanding:
 Humbly now, I bow before You;
 Love incarnate, I adore You;
 Worthily let me receive You
 And, so favored, never leave You.
- 6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
 Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
 Jesus, joy of my desiring,
 Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
 At Your feet I cry, my maker,
 Let me be a fit partaker
 Of this blessed food from heaven,
 For our good, Your glory, given.

- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
 You once left Your throne in heaven
 On the cross for me to languish
 And to die in bitter anguish,
 To forego all joy and gladness
 And to shed Your blood in sadness.
 By this blood redeemed and living,
 Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.
- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
 Let me gladly here obey You.
 By Your love I am invited,
 Be Your love with love requited;
 By this Supper let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
 Through the gift of grace You give me
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; (sts. 1, 4-5); tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2-3, 6-8); tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Text (sts. 1, 4-5); © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006080 Text (sts. 2-3, 6-8); Public domain

Stand

Post Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

- ☩ Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your Word has been fulfilled.
 My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of every people: A Light to reveal You
 to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as
 it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen**

Post-Communion Collect

Benediction

LSB 166

Hymn to Depart: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
 With a liberating light;
 Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
 Turning blindness into sight.
 Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
 Healing ev'ry dread disease,
 Calming storms, and feeding thousands
 With the very Bread of peace.
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children
 With a strong, yet gentle, word;
 Praise the One who drove out demons
 With the piercing, two-edged sword.
 Praise the One who brings cool water
 To the desert's burning sand;
 From this Well comes living water,
 Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
 Christ, who suffered in our place.
 Jesus died and rose victorious
 That we may know God by grace.
 Let us sing for joy and gladness,
 Seeing what our God has done;
 Let us praise the true Redeemer,
 Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955 Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006080

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday Mornings: Sunday School @ 8:45 a.m. Divine Worship @ 10:00 a.m. Choir Practice to follow Worship.

Confirmation Instruction Classes: Thursday Dec. 8th @ 6:00 p.m. at the Church.

Mid-Week Advent Services: Wednesday's @ 7:00 p.m. ***Change on your Calendars that there is no Mid-Week Advent Service on December 21st! Thank You!***

CHRISTmas Hamper & Tree of Warmth Items: The Deadline for bringing them to the Church is Sunday, December 18th, 2022. Thank You for helping those in need!

CHRISTmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service: Saturday, December 24th @ 7:00 p.m. Come join us in Celebrating the Gift of God's Son, Immanuel sent from Heaven above to Earth below to save us from our sin!

CHRISTmas Day Worship Service: Sunday, December 25th @ 10:00 a.m. W/The Lord's Supper. Join in the Celebration of Christ's Birth for it is the Greatest Gift ever given to Everyone!

Acknowledgments

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