

— SECOND SUNDAY OF —
ADVENT

Second Sunday in Advent
December 5, 2021
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



Christ Lutheran Church
 3509 SW Burlingame Rd.
 Topeka, KS 66611
 785-266-6263
 www.christlcms.org
 Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor
 Amanda Adams, DCE
 Chris Francik, TLS Principal



As we gather, please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship, and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

Welcome and Opening Prayer

816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LSB 816



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies	Let the Cre - a - tor's
2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord;	E - ter - nal truth at -
△ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be,	All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise;	Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
tends Thy Word.	Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Son, to Thee.	Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung	Through ev - 'ry land by
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore	Till suns shall rise and
Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore	For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue.	Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
set no more.	Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ev - er - more:	Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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Stand

Divine Service Setting Four, page 203

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Confession, to confess to God our sins and sinful nature. Absolution, “To absolve of sin and wrongdoing,” more specifically, to affirm God’s forgiveness to all who sincerely confess their sins to Him.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 203

- 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.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b

- P** The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
C “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”
P Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!
C O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
P I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
C Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.
P But my people did not listen to my voice;
C Israel would not submit to me.
P Oh, that my people would listen to me,
C that Israel would walk in my ways!
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.
P The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
C “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Kyrie

Mark 10:47 204



- C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

“Salutation” is a word from Latin meaning, “to salute” or “to greet.” “Collect” (KAH-lekt), a brief structured prayer, usually consisting of five parts: address to God, basis for the prayer, petition, desired benefit or result, and trinitarian conclusion. The Collect of the Day also “collects” the message of the day’s Gospel reading.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

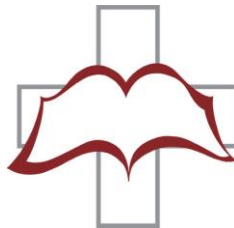
Malachi 3:1–4

A The Old Testament Reading is from Malachi, chapter 3.

¹“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Epistle

Philippians 1:2–11

A The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 1.

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia

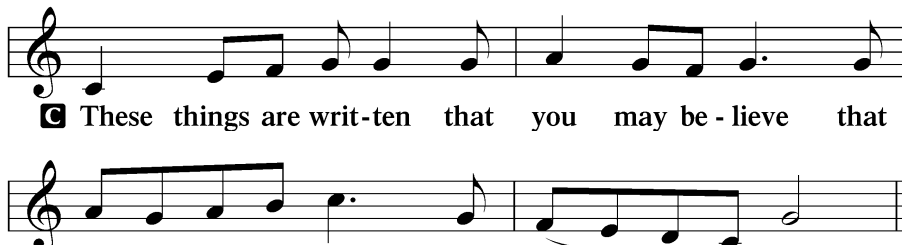
205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse

John 20:31 LSB 205



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that
Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all,

saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Creed comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe." We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

C 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 † of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

*Children are invited to join Amanda Adams, our Director of Christian Education,
 at the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Message.*

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344 sts. 1, 3, 5



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 Δ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain



Sermon

Offering

If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).



SCAN ME

Stand

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

*At the end of each petition, the pastor will say, “Lord, in Your mercy,” to which the congregation will respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”*

- P** ...through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 208

(SAHNK-toose), "Sanctus" is Latin for "holy".



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:



Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210

(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Communion is reserved for those who are members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or members of a church body in fellowship with the LCMS unless special arrangements have been made with the pastor. The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered down the middle aisle to go up to the rail and when dismissed from there will use the side aisle to return to their seats. All are invited up to receive a blessing.



343 Prepare the Royal Highway

LSB 343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from

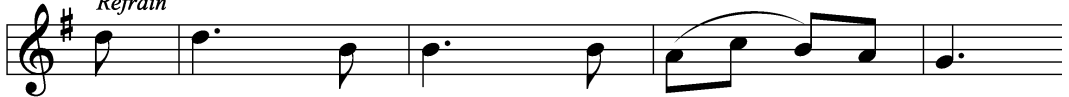


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
 all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
 tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
 give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
 And open wide our heav'nly home;
 Make safe the way that leads on high,
 And close the path to misery.

Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of all mankind;
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
 And be Thyself our King of Peace.

Refrain

Tune and text: Public domain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
 And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

346 When All the World Was Cursed

LSB 346



1 When all the world was cursed By Mo-ses' con-dem-na-tion,
 2 Be-fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy-ful meet-ing,
 3 Be-hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans-gres-sion,
 4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re-ceive, re-joic-ing,



Saint John the Bap-tist came With words of con-so-la-tion.
 Con-fess-ing Him as Lord Whose moth-er he was greet-ing.
 Whose sac-ri-fice re-moves The dev-il's dread op-pres-sion.
 The word pro-claimed by John, Our true re-pen-tance voic-ing,



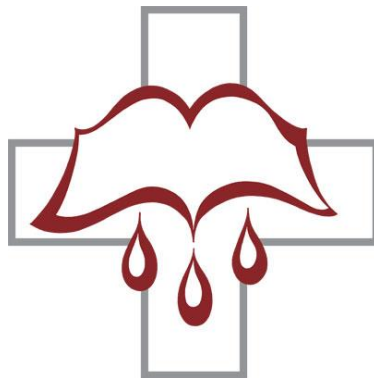
With true fore-run-ner's zeal The great-er One he named,
 By Jor-dan's roll-ing stream, A new E-li-jah bold,
 Be-hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a-way our sin,
 That glad-ly we may walk Up-on our Sav-ior's way



And Him, as yet un-known, As Sav-ior he pro-claimed.
 He tes-ti-fied of Him Of whom the proph-ets told:
 Who for our peace and joy Will full a-tone-ment win.
 Un-til we live with Him In His e-ter-nal day.

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359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

LSB 359



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



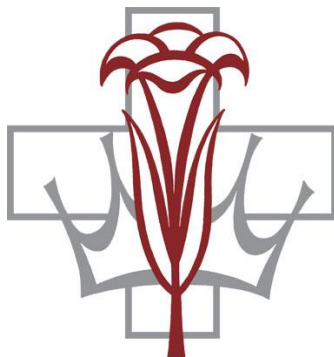
sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand



Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32 LSB 211

(*NUNK dih-MIH-tuss*). Latin for “now [let your servant] depart,” from the Song of Simeon.



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.


Nunc Dimittis
SONG OF SIMEON

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

(beh-neh-dih-KAH-moose), Latin for "bless we [the Lord]." We give thanks to God for everything He has done for us in Jesus Christ.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit



349 Hark the Glad Sound

LSB 349



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

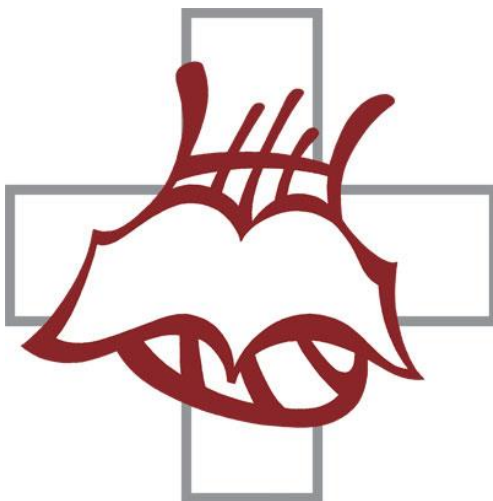


prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

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-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday December 5th	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Voters' Meeting Sunday School/Christmas Program Practice
Monday December 6th		
Tuesday December 7th		
Wednesday December 8th	4:00 pm 5:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Confirmation Advent Meal Advent Midweek Worship Service Choir Practice
Thursday December 9th	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	Chair Aerobics Pastor's Bible Class
Friday December 10th		
Saturday December 11th	9:30 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	Women's Monthly Bible Study Men's Bible Study (via Zoom) College/Young Adult Bowling
Sunday December 12th	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:45 am 3:00 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School/Christmas Program Practice Children's Christmas Program Potluck New Pastor Installation at Prince of Peace

Celebrating

Birthdays: Denny J., Aaron K., Willard M. (5th); Jennifer A., Carolyn C., Steven H., Jayel M. (6th); Kaycee N. (7th); Jason A., Aleah B., Lyn L., Delaney S. (8th); Joshua A., Ann-Marie B., Abby H., Ella L. (9th); Ad P. (10th); Greg K. (12th)

Baptism Birthdays: Wayne K., Aaron K., Willard M. (5th); Glenna B., Eric C., Kinley G., Arileigh B., Madeline J. (7th); Benjamin A., Eddie M. (8th); Erin B., Bob T. (9th); Carolyn C., Sharon L., Terry L., Justin M. (10th); Stella M. (11th)

Anniversaries: (none this week)

-- Announcements --

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Journey through Genesis with Pastor Ben – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym)
God's Word for Today: Acts – Basement
A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Pastor's Office

Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through 6th grade) – Upstairs Education Wing
Youth (7th-12th grades) – Basement Youth Room

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

The Epistles – Thursday at 7 PM – Basement
Our class is now Thursdays at 7 PM, but will NOT meet on the first week of each month.

Advent Midweek Worship & Advent Meals

Join us for Advent Midweek Worship services and Advent Meals on Wednesdays!
Enjoy a meal from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, and then come to the sanctuary for worship at 7 PM.

Voters' Meeting – TODAY

We will hold a congregational voters' meeting on Sunday, Dec. 5th at 9:15 AM, discussing the budget for the coming year and more. All members are encouraged to attend.

Children's Christmas Program

Our Children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 12th at 10:30 AM, with a potluck to follow. A Divine Service with communion will still be offered at 8 AM that morning, as usual.

Advent Devotions

FREE Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available at the back of the sanctuary (regular and large print). Or download for e-reader from our website.

Stewardship Month

It is time once again to prayerfully consider your stewardship promise for the coming year. Please note that there is NO LONGER a Debt Retirement fund listed. (And if you have set up a recurring gift to that fund on PushPay, you will need to update your account settings.) Promise forms are in your bulletin, and are also available at the back of the sanctuary and on our website. Please submit pledges by Dec. 19th.

Volunteers Needed – Breakfast with Santa

Please check the bulletin board in the coffee lobby – we will need a lot of volunteers to make this community event a success!

-- Announcements --

Debt Retirement Fund

As announced in November, we received a generous gift from an anonymous former member in the amount of \$150,000 for our debt retirement fund. This gift was in memory of Pastor Eckhardt and in honor of Letty Eckhardt. After this gift, the \$10,000 in matching funds, and another \$15,000 donation, we have completely eliminated our debt. Thank you ALL for your generosity.

SLI

LWML will sponsor a Christmas project for SLI again this year. Congregation members may donate winter hats and gloves, underwear sizes medium to XXL, and socks. These items are needed for both men & women. They also need games, word search/crossword puzzle books, and jigsaw puzzles for the group homes. There will be a box in the coffee lobby for these items from Nov. 21 until Dec. 12. Thank you for your generosity.

Thrivent Cards

Do you have unused Thrivent Action Teams? Don't let them expire at the end of the year! Contact Amanda Adams if you need ideas – we have a list of projects that could use funding. Thank you for living generously!

Prince of Peace

Christ members are invited to the instillation service of Pastor Kevin DeHope at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church (3625 SW Wanamaker) on Sunday, December 12th at 3 PM. We rejoice with their congregation and welcome Pastor DeHope, his wife Alicia, and their two children to Topeka.

Building Usage

Just a reminder – to reserve a room or the gym here at church for a personal event (family gathering, exercise class, athletic practice, meeting, etc.), current building usage paperwork **MUST** be *ON FILE* in the church office and *APPROVED* by church staff before that space will be saved for you on the calendar. Thank you!

Mask Information

Face masks are still optional throughout the church building. Disposable masks are available at all church entrances for those who would like one. Children's size masks are located by the main entrance. Reusable cloth masks are available by the church office. For more information regarding masking, please visit www.cdc.gov.

-- Announcements --

Pray for our Soldiers

Pick up a toy soldier from the back of the sanctuary to remind you to pray for our veterans and active troops!

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Julie J., Don L., Jerry M., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Jeanette W., Lisa (Judy K.'s sister), Randy (Carol J.'s son), Madison L., Steve (Rachel M.'s father), Vikki N., Matt N., Lynn M., Virginia C., Leonard (brother of Jeanette B.), Phil B., the McReynold's (friends of Phil B.), JoAnn (friend of Nancy P.), Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Marjean P., Ted M., Adam (Jamie H.'s son), Carolyn S., Caleb (Dana N.'s nephew), Abigail (Pastor's niece), Gary M., Principal Francik and family as he prayerfully considers a call to another school, and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, DCE Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord's work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of Topeka Lutheran School and the Center for Young Children. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.

Pray WITHOUT
CEASING

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 18th -- 9 AM to 11 AM

Christ Lutheran Church -- 3509 SW Burlingame Rd (Topeka)

A FREE EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

- **Enjoy a pancake breakfast and fun activities at your table.**
- **We'll call your number* when it's time to see Santa so you don't have to stand in line all morning.**
- **Don't forget to bring your camera for a photo!**

***No ticket numbers
will be dispersed
after 10:45 AM.**





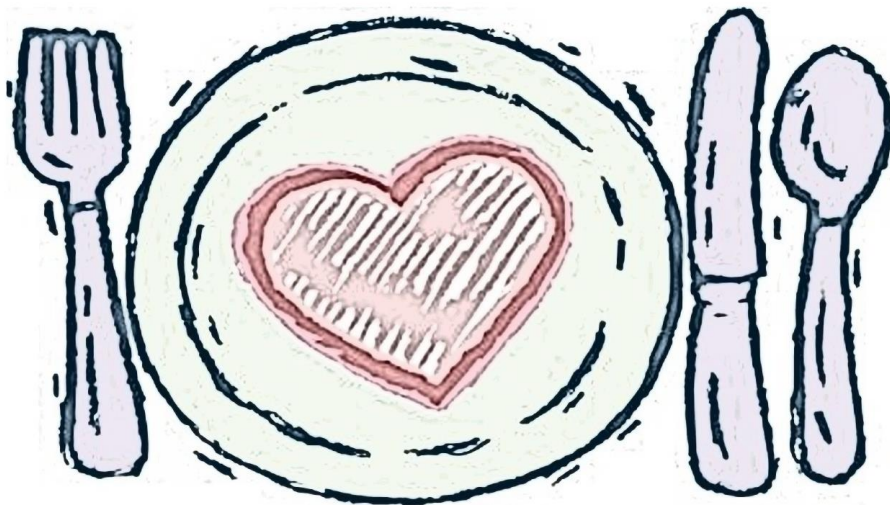
**ADVENT MIDWEEK
WORSHIP SERVICES**

DEC. 1ST, 8TH, 15TH -- 7 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3509 SW BURLINGAME RD -- TOPEKA

Advent Meals



Join us on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm
before Advent Midweek worship services.

Dec. 1st -- Chicken Noodle Soup, Chili, Cinnamon Rolls

Dec. 8th -- Lasagna, Green Beans, Cookies

Dec. 15th -- Pizza, Salad, Brownies

(Gluten-Free options will be available all three evenings.)

A free will offering will benefit Christ Youth.

Thank you for your support!

The Preaching of Repentance Prepares Us for the Coming of the Lord

The preaching and Baptism “*of repentance for the forgiveness of sins*” (Luke 3:3) prepare us for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The historic work of John the Baptist was completed with the first advent of our Lord Jesus in the flesh, but the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of Law and Gospel and in Holy Baptism. Through His messengers, the Lord calls people of all nations to “*see the salvation of God*” (Luke 3:6). Our haughtiness is removed and our mountains of pride are brought low, but the Lord humbles us in order to exalt us in His mercy. As the Lord has begun this good work of repentance in us, so also does He perfect it by His Word and Holy Spirit, and He “*will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ*” (Phil. 1:6). He purifies us to be His priestly people, precious in His sight and abounding in faith and love, so that we offer our very lives in righteousness to the Lord (Mal. 3:3–4).

Worship Attendance – Sunday, November 28th

8:00 AM -- 60

10:30 AM -- 79

Stewardship Corner

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	\$ 7,878
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 11/28</i>	\$ 4,865

<i>Debt Retirement Gifts Received – Week of 11/28</i>	\$ 15,591
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<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan - Nov 2021)</i>	\$375,562
<i>Offerings Received (Jan - Nov 2021)</i>	\$356,228

Luke 3:4 – “As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’ ” God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than 700 years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do! That’s yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives. He knows what’s coming, and we don’t.