

— FOURTH SUNDAY OF —  
**ADVENT**

Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 19, 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

### 342 What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

LSB 342



1 What hope! An E - den proph-e - sied Where tame live with the wild;  
2 A shoot will sprout from Jes - se's stem, A branch from Da-vid's line,  
3 As ban - ner of God's love un-furled, Christ came to suf - fer loss,  
4 Come, Je - sus, come, Mes - si - ah Lord, Lost Par - a - dise re - store;



The lamb and li - on side by side, Led by a lit - tle child!  
A Prince of Peace in Beth - le - hem: The fruit of God's de - sign.  
That by His death a dy - ing world Would ral - ly to the cross.  
Lead past the an - gel's flam - ing sword—Come, o - pen heav - en's door.

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*Stand*

## Divine Service Setting One, page 151

### ✠ 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

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

## Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. Consider: Have you loved God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself?*

## Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **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.**

## Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 151

- 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

*1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b-7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b-47*

- P** My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**C** **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**
- P** My mouth derides my enemies,  
**C** **because I rejoice in your salvation.**
- P** There is none holy like the LORD;  
**C** **there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.**
- P** The barren has borne seven,  
**C** **but she who has many children is forlorn.**
- P** The LORD kills and brings to life;  
**C** **he brings down to Sheol and raises up.**
- P** The LORD makes poor and makes rich;  
**C** **he brings low and he exalts.**
- 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** My soul magnifies the Lord,  
**C** **and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**



# Kyrie

Mark 10:47 152

*A Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy!" A brief prayer not only imploring God's mercy but rejoicing in it through Jesus Christ.*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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

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



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

**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.



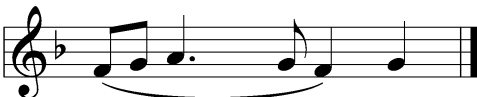
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



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

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



**C** A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

*“Salutation” is a word from Latin meaning, “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.*

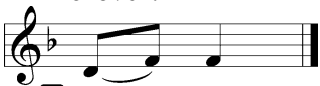
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Micah 5:2–5a*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Micah, chapter 5.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has given birth;  
then the rest of his brothers shall return  
to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## Procession of the Kings

Choir

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## Epistle

Hebrews 10:5–10

- A** The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 10.

<sup>5</sup>When Christ came into the world, he said,  
 “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
 but a body have you prepared for me;  
<sup>6</sup>in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
 you have taken no pleasure.  
<sup>7</sup>Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,  
 as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

<sup>8</sup>When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup>then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia and Verse

156

*Hebrew word meaning "praise the LORD." Also spelled "Hallelujah".*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Luke 1:39–56

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



**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

<sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
and exalted those of humble estate;

<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent empty away.

<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

<sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** 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.

**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.

**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

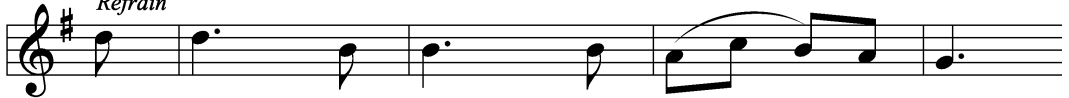


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



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*

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*

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*

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## Sermon

## Offering

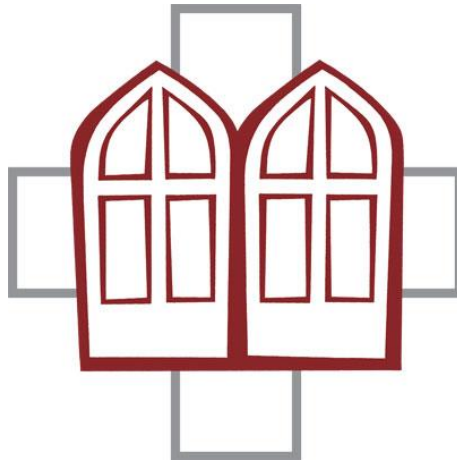
*If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving at [pushpay.com/pay/christlcms](https://pushpay.com/pay/christlcms) for a one-time or recurring gift.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



## Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB 159

**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## 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.
- C** Amen.



## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 160*

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

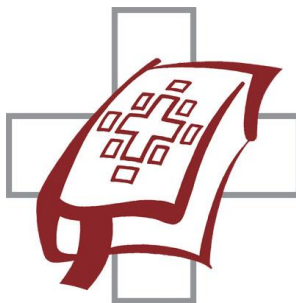
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### Proper Preface (Full)

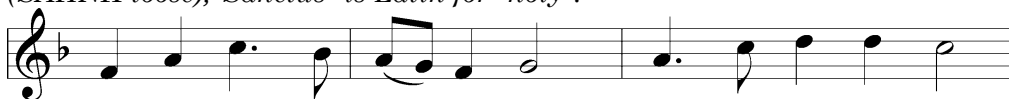
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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 21:9 161

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



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

161

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



## Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13 LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  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

John 20:19 163

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

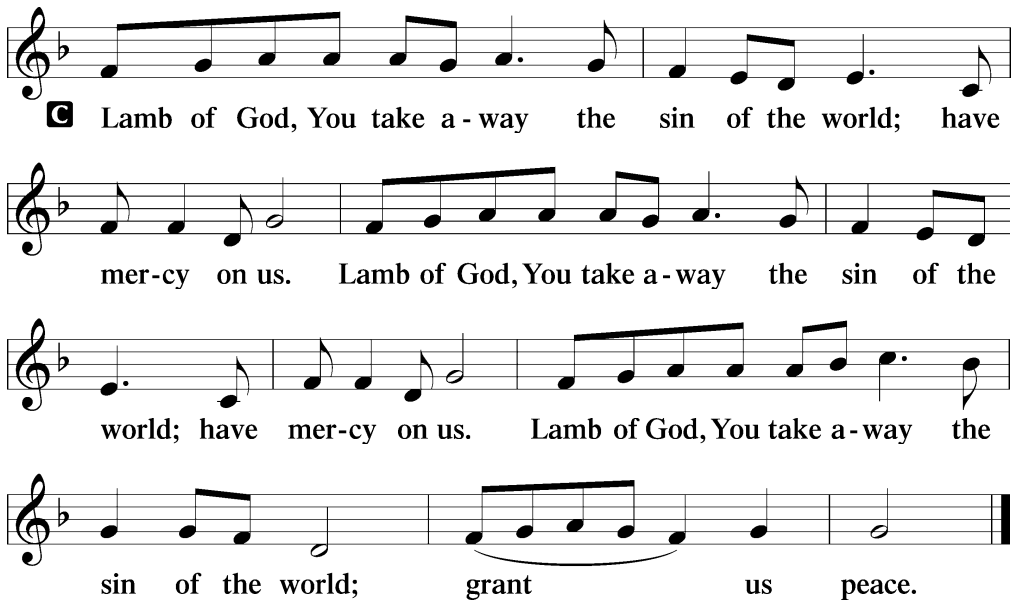
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



## Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 163

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



□ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*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.*



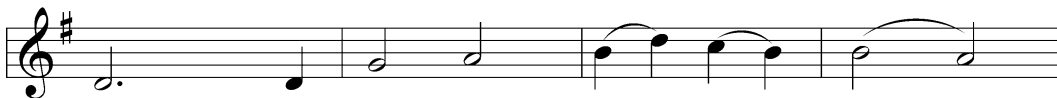


# 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

LSB 336



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him  
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion  
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;  
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,  
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.  
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly  
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.  
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

### 431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

LSB 431



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain  
 2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;  
 3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,  
 4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear  
 5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.  
 A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.  
 While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.  
 When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.  
 We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

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### 934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

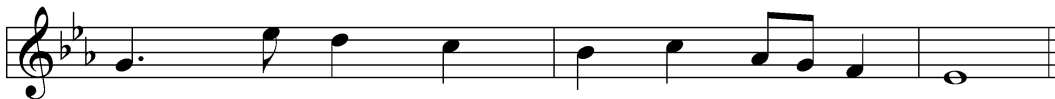
LSB 934



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters  
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
 those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -  
 leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.  
 tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.  
 el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

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933 My Soul Rejoices

LSB 933



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the  
 2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me  
 great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and  
 shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bles - sing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and  
 halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the



ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy  
 wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,  
 to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring



Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!  
 God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

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## Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10] LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

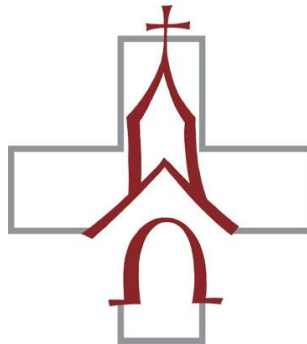
## Post-Communion Collect

**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** A - men.



## 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.

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26 166

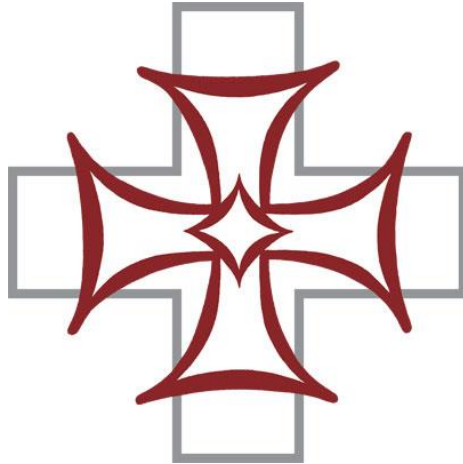
*A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.*

- 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** A - men.

*Sit*



## Acknowledgments

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## 797 Praise the Almighty

LSB 797



- 1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!  
 2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;  
 3 Bless - ed, oh, bless - ed are they for - ev - er  
 4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,  
 △ 5 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly



Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and  
 Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their  
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from sal -  
 Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the  
 Of Him who does such won - drous things! All that has



an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as  
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark  
 va - tion can noth - ing sev - er, And who in  
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful  
 be - ing, to praise Him sole - ly, With hap - py



He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and  
 grave en - gulfed its prey. Since mor - tals can no  
 hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in  
 God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren  
 heart its a - men sings. Chil - dren of God, with



all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.  
 help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
 Him, our Lord Will aid and coun - sel now af - ford.  
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.  
 an - gel host Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!



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!

Text and tune: Public domain

# Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service

Join us!

Friday, Dec. 24

5:00 pm & 7:00 pm

5 pm service will also be live-streamed  
on Facebook and at [christlcm.org](http://christlcm.org)

Christ Lutheran Church  
3509 SW Burlingame Rd.  
Topeka, KS



## -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday December 19th	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:30 am</b> 9:15 am	<b>Worship Service w/ Communion</b> Sunday School (adults & children)
Monday December 20th		
Tuesday December 21st		
Wednesday December 22nd		
Thursday December 23rd		
Friday December 24th	<b>5:00 &amp; 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service</b>  <i>Church Office Closed</i>
Saturday December 25th		  <i>Christmas Day</i>
Sunday December 26th	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:30 am</b> 9:15 am	<b>Worship Service w/ Communion</b> Sunday School (adults & children)

### Celebrating

**Birthdays:** Teresa M., Darin S. (19<sup>th</sup>); Merle H., Amelia S. (20<sup>th</sup>); Mary S. (22<sup>nd</sup>); Sondra K., Katie L., Karen M. (23<sup>rd</sup>); Marty C. (26<sup>th</sup>)

**Baptism Birthdays:** Amber H., Ashley H., Paul R. (19<sup>th</sup>); Brilyn G. (20<sup>th</sup>); Elijah M. (21<sup>st</sup>); Rachel K. (22<sup>nd</sup>); Dylan B. (23<sup>rd</sup>); Jennifer A., Luna C., Jennifer H. (24<sup>th</sup>); Holden T. (25<sup>th</sup>); Greg K., Erin S. (26<sup>th</sup>)

**Anniversaries:** Brett & Cindy H., Justin & Jennifer M. (20<sup>th</sup>)



# -- 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 6<sup>th</sup> grade) – Upstairs Education Wing  
Youth (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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.*

## **Christmas Eve Worship Services**

Join us for Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – services are at 5 PM and 7 PM.

## **New Year's Eve Worship Service**

Join us for worship and communion on Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM.  
During this service, we will be burning a copy of the loan paperwork for the Schemm Family Life Center, in celebration of completely paying off our building debt.

## **Stewardship Month – LAST DAY FOR PLEDGES**

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. 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Youth Activities**

Jr. Youth (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades) can meet here at church on Wednesday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3 PM for some fun during Christmas Break! Middle/High School Youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12 grades) can meet here on the evening of the 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and spend the night for a lock-in!

## **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!

# -- Announcements --

## **Red Cross Blood Drive – Thursday, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>**

To make your life-saving appointment call 800-RED-CROSS or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) (sponsor code: TopekaCLC). Bring a photo ID, drink plenty of water and eat prior to your appointment. Save time at your appointment by completing RapidPass - pre-reading and questions - the DAY OF your appointment via the blood donor app or visit [www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass](http://www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass).

## **Thank You**

My family and I want to thank everyone for the kindness and support shown to us after Gary passed away. God's blessings to you all. – Karen Marts and family

## **Portals of Prayer**

Our LWML group is no longer collecting used Portals of Prayer. So when you pick up your new copy at the end of this month, please do not bring your old ones here to church anymore. If you would like it to get reused, feel free to pass it along to a friend or colleague, or drop it in a “Little Free Library” in your neighborhood. Thanks!

## **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](http://www.cdc.gov).

## **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!



## -- Announcements --

### 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., 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), Dave C., Justin (Donna B.'s nephew), Robert P., Jen (Donna B.'s niece), Walt 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.



New Year's Eve  
Worship Service with Communion

Friday, Dec. 31st -- 7:00 pm

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

*The Lord Comes to Visit Us in Peace*

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the nativity of our Lord. With Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Spirit of God. As the Lord dealt graciously with her and did great things for her (Luke 1:48–49), so also He manifests Himself and His glory to us in mercy and gentleness. He comes to rule His people in peace, to “*shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD.*” He comes forth not from the great capital city of Rome or Jerusalem, but from lowly little Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, 4). He comes to sacrifice Himself, in fulfillment of His Father’s will, for the salvation and sanctification of His people (Heb. 10:10). He who once visited Elizabeth while hidden in the womb of Mary (Luke 1:39–45) now comes to visit us today, hidden in the lowliness of simple water, bread and wine.

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**Worship Attendance – Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 AM -- 52  
10:30 AM -- 178

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**Stewardship Corner**

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	<b>\$ 7,878</b>
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 12/12</i>	<b>\$ 13,806</b>
<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan - Nov 2021)</i>	<b>\$375,562</b>
<i>Offerings Received (Jan - Nov 2021)</i>	<b>\$356,228</b>

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**Luke 1:45 – “And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”** The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord’s own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord’s commands in the face of the world’s anger and resistance. Mary’s faith also gave her the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.