

# *Fourth Sunday in Advent*

Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 18, 2022  
8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



Christ Lutheran Church  
3509 SW Burlingame Rd.  
Topeka, KS 66611  
785-266-6263  
[www.christlcms.org](http://www.christlcms.org)  
Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor  
Amanda Adams, DCE  
Kyle Johnson, 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).

### **Holy Communion**

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

*For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.*



## Welcome and Opening Prayer

### 900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

LSB 900



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,  
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,  
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth  
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
Kneel-ing in her low-ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.  
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo-ple save."  
When the cup of hu-man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n  
Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby those to sin enslaved  
Burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we flee  
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.; Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.; Text and tune: Public domain

*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

Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1

- P** Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
**C** **that the mountains might quake at your presence.**
- P** I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
**C** **and in his word I hope;**
- P** my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,  
**C** **more than watchmen for the morning.**
- P** O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
**C** **and with him is plentiful redemption.**
- P** And he will redeem Israel  
**C** **from all his iniquities.**
- 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** Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
**C** **that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

# 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.



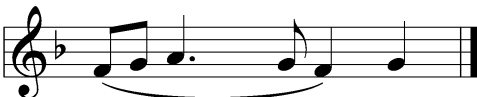
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**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-lect), 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

*Isaiah 7:10–17*

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 7.

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

Romans 1:1-7

**A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 1.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

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

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

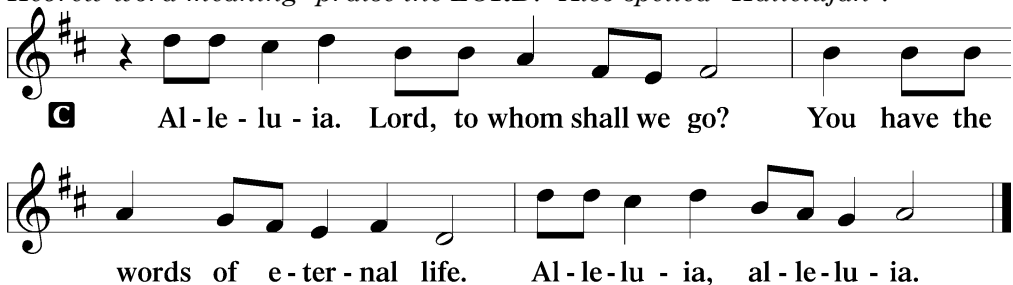
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

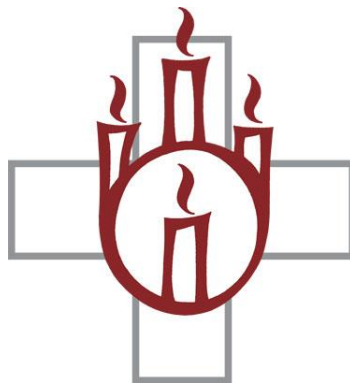
## Alleluia and Verse

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

Matthew 1:18–25

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



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

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

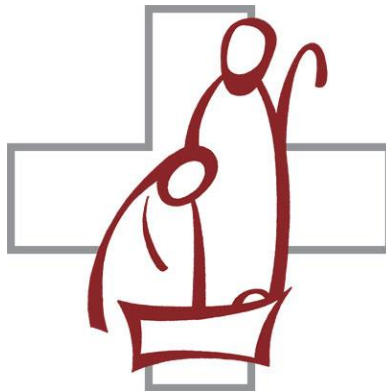
<sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**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.*

**☩ 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!

*(continued on next page)*



- 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

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.  
Tune: French, 15th cent.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

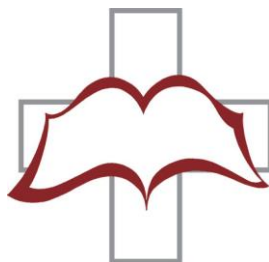
## Offering

*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 through Vanco at [bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS](https://bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS) for a one-time or recurring gift. You may also download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app and search for Christ Lutheran Church in Topeka, KS. Direct links and additional 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).*



## 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)

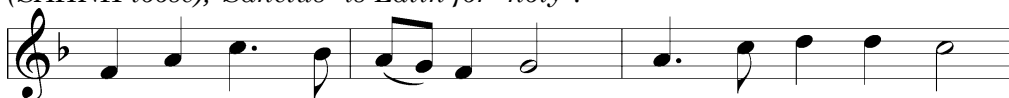
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the 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

*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.*







1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;  
 5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!  
 To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;  
 Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.  
 All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.  
 From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,  
 To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,  
 Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;  
 To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;  
 The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.  
 And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.  
 His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.  
 His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
 Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532–c. 1601  
 Text and tune: Public domain



### 331 The Advent of Our King

LSB 331



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,  
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,  
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,  
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain

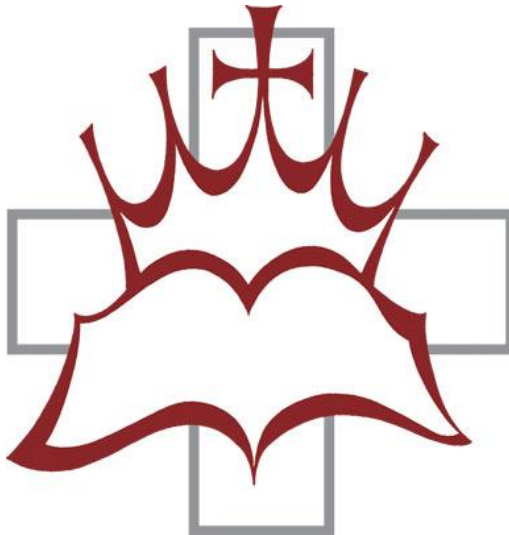


And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.  
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.  
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.  
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt.; Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76  
Text and tune: Public domain



# 333 Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -  
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He  
 3 Soon will come that hour ——— When with might - y  
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,  
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,  
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor  
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to  
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will  
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful  
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.  
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.  
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.  
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534

Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002199

Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain





1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?  
 2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;  
 3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.  
 4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!  
 And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.  
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.  
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast  
 My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais - es new  
 A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high  
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.  
 And from Your name shall nev - er With - hold the hon - or due.  
 That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.  
 In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,  
 Cannot His love erase;  
 Your guilt the Lord will pardon  
 And cover by His grace.  
 He comes, for you procuring  
 The peace of sin forgiv'n,  
 His children thus securing  
 Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,  
 A terror to His foes,  
 A light of consolations  
 And blessèd hope to those  
 Who love the Lord's appearing.  
 O glorious Sun, now come,  
 Send forth Your beams so cheering,  
 And guide us safely home.

## 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.

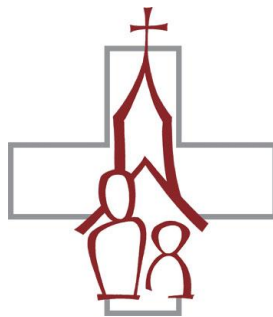
## Post-Communion Collect

**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

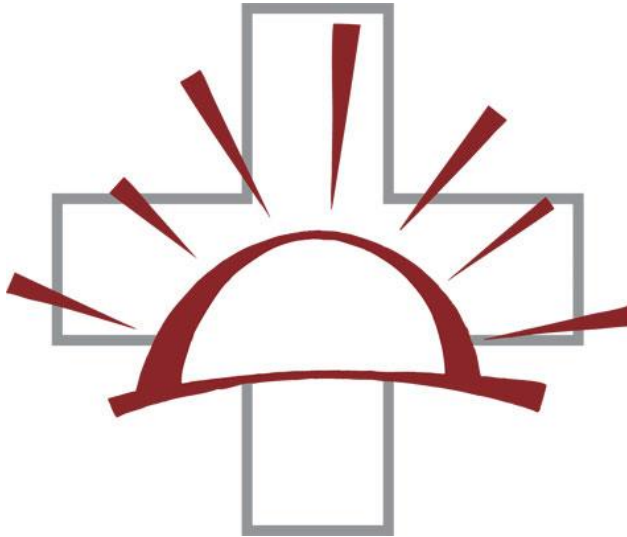
*A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.*

- 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*



## 810 O God of God, O Light of Light

LSB 810



1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and  
 2 For deep in proph-ets' sa-cred page, And grand in po-ets'  
 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in  
 4 Then raise to Christ a might-y song, And shout His name, His



King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo-ry bright The song of  
 wing-ed word, Slow-ly in type, from age to age The na-tions  
 hate and scorn— These all are past, and now a-bove He reigns, our  
 mer-cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for-ev-er rings. To Him who sits up-on the throne,  
 saw their com-ing Lord; Till through the deep Ju-de-an night  
 King once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, O might-y gates!  
 earth, your an-them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin-ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry  
 Rang out the song, "Good-will to men!" Sung once by first-born  
 So sang that host be-yond our ken. Lift up your heads, your  
 For-ev-er let the song as-cend! Wor-thy the Lamb, en-



He has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, a-men.  
 sons of light, It ech-oes now, "Good-will!" A-men.  
 King a-waits. We lift them up, A-men, a-men.  
 throned to reign, All glo-ry, pow'r! A-men, a-men.

Text: John Julian, 1839–1913, alt.  
 Tune: Johann Störles . . . Schlag-Gesang- Und Noten-Buch, 1744, Stuttgart  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

## -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday December 18th	<b>8:00 &amp; 10:30 am</b> 9:15 am 5:30 pm	<b>Worship Service w/ Communion</b> Sunday School (children & adults) Zoo Lights -- Free Cocoa & Treats at "Children's Party House" shelter in Gage Park
Monday December 19th		
Tuesday December 20th		
Wednesday December 21st	6:00 pm <b>7:00 pm</b> 7:30 pm	Advent Meal <b>Advent Midweek Worship Service</b> Choir
Thursday December 22nd	2:00 pm 7:00 pm	Chair Aerobics Pastor's Bible Study
Friday December 23rd		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON
Saturday December 24th	10:00 am <b>5:00 &amp; 7:00 pm</b>	Men's Bible Study (Zoom) <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service</b>  <i>Christmas Eve</i>
Sunday December 25th	<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Christmas Morning Worship Service w/ Communion</b>  <i>Christmas Day</i>

### Celebrating

**Birthdays:** Carolyn N. (18<sup>th</sup>); Teresa M. (19<sup>th</sup>); Amelia S. (20<sup>th</sup>); Mary S. (22<sup>nd</sup>); Sondra K., Karen M. (23<sup>rd</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>)

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



# -- Announcements --

## **Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)**

Romans (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym)  
Tree of Life (Basement Small Group) – Basement Meeting Room  
A Walk Through the Bible (Women’s Group) – Meeting Room near Gym

## **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 Book of Daniel – Thursdays at 7 PM – Basement  
*(This class does NOT meet on the first Thursday of each month.)*

## **Advent Meals & Advent Midweek Worship Services**

Join us on Wednesdays for our weekly 6:00 PM Advent Meals and 7:00 PM Advent Midweek Worship Services. A free will offering will be taken at Advent Meals, with proceeds going to Christ Youth. Sign up in the coffee lobby if you would like to bring dessert! Our midweek worship services for this Advent season will have the theme “O Come, Emmanuel.”

## **Christmas Eve & Christmas Morning Worship Services**

Join us on Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM and 7 PM for our Christmas Eve candlelight worship services. On Sunday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, we will hold one Christmas Morning worship service at 9:15 AM instead of our usual 8 AM and 10:30 AM times.

## **New Year’s Eve Worship Service**

Join us on Saturday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM for our final worship service of the year. Sunday worship services on January 1<sup>st</sup> will be at our regular 8 AM and 10:30 AM times.

## **Zoo Lights – TONIGHT!**

Join us on Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> anytime between 5:30 PM and 8:30 PM at the “Children’s Party House” shelter in Gage Park for some free hot cocoa and treats! Then enjoy the Zoo Lights with your family and friends. Tickets for the Zoo Lights may be purchased online through the Topeka Zoo website ([topekazoo.org/zoolights](http://topekazoo.org/zoolights)). Purchasing tickets in advance is recommended, as the event often sells out throughout the season.

## **Bible Reading Challenge**

Our current Bible Reading Challenge is THE BIG ONE – reading the entire Bible in a year! Pick up a reading calendar in the coffee lobby or download from our website.

# -- Announcements --

## Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Ted M., Carolyn S., Jen (Donna B.'s niece), Barbara K., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Kim (friend of the Micheels), Dick H., Penny (Marty K.'s coworker's wife), Betty H., Sammi (Carol J.'s friend's granddaughter), Burnell M., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Chris G., Sharon H., Lila N., 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 Jr. Wildcats. 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.

**Advent**  
*Midweek Worship Services*  
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

November 30      December 14  
December 7      December 21



Christ Lutheran Church - Topeka, Kansas  
christlums.org

The illustration shows a white silhouette of a nativity scene against a blue background. It includes a shepherd with a staff, a baby in a manger, a woman, and a dog. A bright star is positioned above the manger.

**Advent Meals**



Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm  
before Advent Midweek worship services.

Nov. 30th -- Baked Potato Bar  
Dec. 7th -- Hamburgers  
Dec. 14th -- Lasagna  
Dec. 21st -- Soup

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

A free will offering will benefit Christ Youth. Thank you for your support!

The illustration features a central green plate with a red heart in the middle. To the left is a purple fork, and to the right are a purple knife and a purple spoon.



*Christmas Eve  
Candelight Worship Services  
Saturday, Dec. 24 - 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm*

*Christmas Morning  
Worship Service  
Sunday, Dec. 25 - 9:15 am*

*Christ Lutheran Church - Topeka, Kansas - christlems.org*

*New Year's Eve  
Worship Service*

*Saturday, Dec. 31st - 7:00 pm*

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

***God's Word Is Fulfilled for Us in the Flesh and Blood of Christ Jesus,  
the Son of Mary***

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the Nativity of Our Lord. With the blessed Virgin Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Word and Spirit of God. This fulfillment of the sign once given to the house of David, that *"the virgin shall conceive and bear a son"* (Is. 7:14), is now given to us in the Gospel. It declares that salvation is by His grace alone, entirely His work and a free gift. It also is the way and means by which the Lord our God is Immanuel, "God with us." The almighty and eternal Son of God is conceived and born of Mary, and is thus *"descended from David according to the flesh"* (Rom. 1:3–4). He comes in this way to save us with His own flesh and blood; wherefore, He is called *"Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins"* (Matt. 1:21). As Joseph received this sign in faith and immediately *"did as the angel of the Lord commanded him"* (Matt. 1:24), we also live by faith in this Holy Gospel.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Worship Attendance – Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 AM -- 56  
10:30 AM -- 142

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Stewardship Corner**

<b><i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i></b>	<b>\$ 8,337</b>
<b><i>Offerings Received – Week of 12/11</i></b>	<b>\$ 6,888</b>
<b><i>Budgeted Needs (Jan-Nov 2022 )</i></b>	<b>\$ 397,408</b>
<b><i>Offerings Received (Jan-Nov 2022)</i></b>	<b>\$ 384,968</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Matthew 1:21 – “She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”** What our good works could never do, Jesus has done: He has saved us from our sins, paid our debt, set us free. How can we not give thanks to Him with lives of generosity and godliness? What God’s Law could not do — truly motivate us to truly good works — Jesus’ love has done!