

— THIRD SUNDAY OF —
ADVENT

Third Sunday in Advent
December 13th, 2020
8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, & 10:30 AM



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



Welcome and Opening Prayer

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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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.

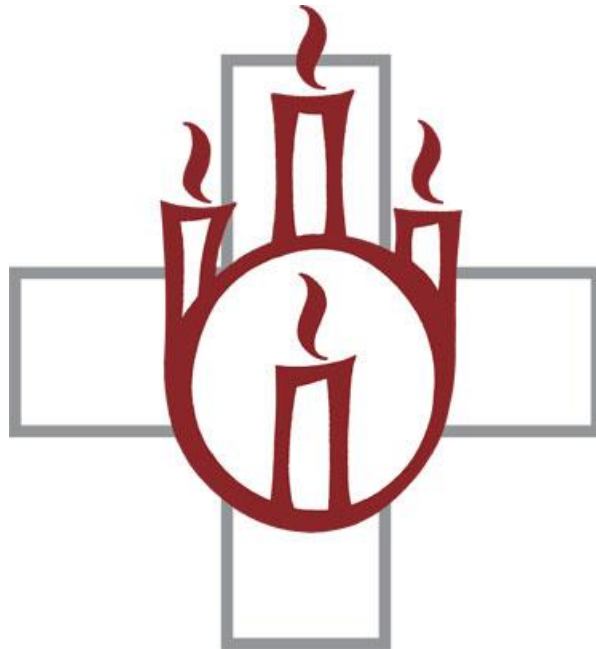
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7

- P** Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
C **and grant us your salvation.**
- P** Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
C **for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**
- P** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
C **that glory may dwell in our land.**
- P** Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
C **and our land will yield its increase.**
- P** Righteousness will go before him
C **and make his footsteps a way. 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** Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
C **and grant us your salvation.**



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.



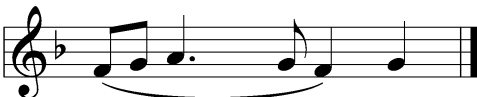
C Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

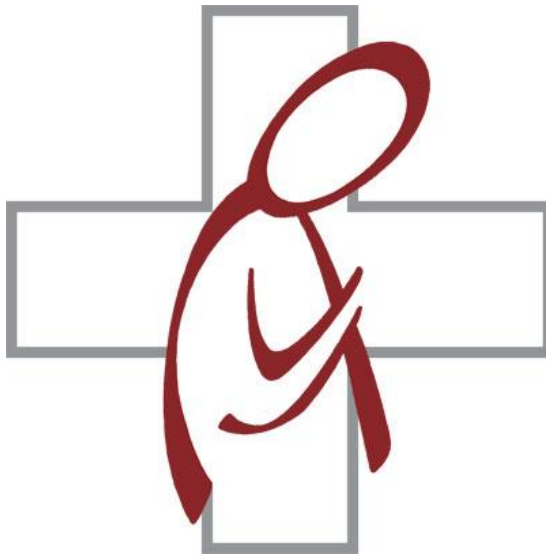
P Let us pray.

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



C A - men.

Sit



Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 61.

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice;
I hate robbery and wrong;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge them,
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

A The Epistle is from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 5.

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

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.



Deo Gratias

THANKS BE TO GOD

Holy Gospel

John 1:6–8, 19–28

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . .

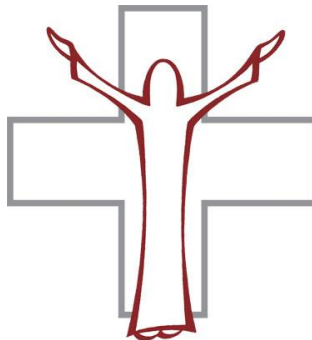
¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

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.

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Offering

For those gathered with us in-person, an offering plate will be at the back of the room for a contactless drop-off for your gifts, tithes, and offerings as you leave today's service.

For those still joining us remotely, we have multiple options for giving. You can text CHRISTLCMS to 77977 to give via text message, or sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Or, use the "My Church by PushPay" app, with keyword CHRISTLCMS. You may also mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).

Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

If you have prayer requests, please e-mail them to our church office (office@christlcms.org) or call the office at (785) 266-6263. We will include them in next week's service, and also share them with our prayer chain if desired.

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)

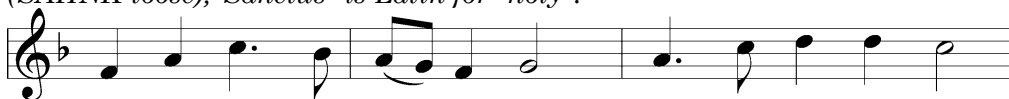
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin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

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

C 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 front of the sanctuary due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to proceed to the front. All are invited up to receive a blessing.



338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

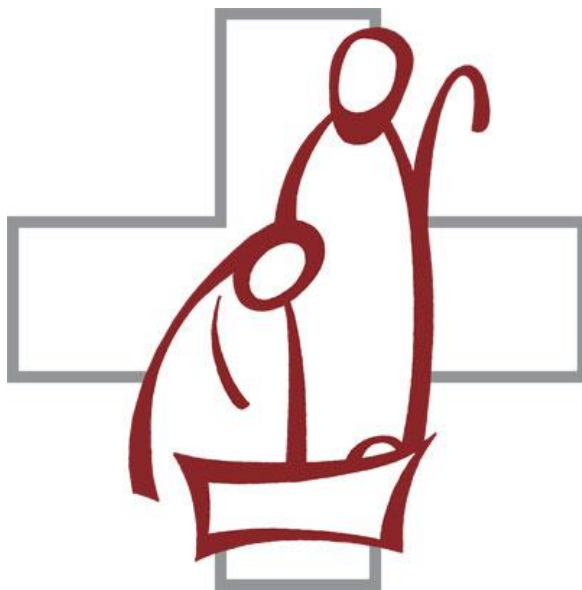


Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain



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.

Tune and text: Public domain



354 Arise, O Christian People

LSB 354



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
 best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
 high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
 side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
 heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
 soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
 Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Dismissal

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 \dagger give you peace.



G A - men.

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.

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-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday December 13	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am	Worship Service w/ Communion
Monday December 14	11:00 am	TLS Fundraiser at Pie Five
Tuesday December 15		
Wednesday December 16	3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Drive-Up Communion for Homebound Advent Worship Service
Thursday December 17	7:00 pm	Pastor's Bible Class (in-person & via Zoom)
Friday December 18		
Saturday December 19	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (via Zoom)
Sunday December 20	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am	Worship Service w/ Communion

-- Announcements --

Celebrating

Birthdays: Justin K. (13th); Evelyn L., Lester L. (14th); Lynne D., Heather S., Carolyn S. (15th); Michael C. (16th); Carolyn N. (18th); Teresa M., Darin S. (19th); Merle H., Amelia S. (20th)

Baptism Birthdays: Marsha H. (13th); Brett H. (14th); Ron G., Jennifer G. (15th); Jan C., Maya M., Haley P. (17th); Amber H., Ashley H., Paul R. (19th); Brilyn G. (20th)

Anniversaries: Brett & Cindy H., Justin & Jennifer M. (20th)

Worship Service Updates

We have three worship service times: Sunday mornings at 8 am, 9:15 am, and 10:30 am. These services are capped at 45 people each to allow for proper distancing. Please continue to sign up through the church website. Thank you for your patience as we navigate this ever-changing situation!

Advent Worship Services

Join us for our midweek Advent worship services on Wednesdays at 5:00 pm. (Please note that there is no longer a 7:00 pm Advent service. Our weekly Advent meals have also been cancelled.) If the 5 pm service fills up to our safely distanced capacity, we will add an additional service at 6 pm. Please continue to sign up through our website.

Children/Youth Sunday School

Children's Sunday School (Pre-K through 6th grade) and Youth Sunday School (7th through 12th grade) are not currently meeting in-person. DCE Amanda will continue posting weekly lessons and resources to the members area of our website (christlcms.org/members) – contact the church office if you need the password.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Classes

Both of our small groups that have been meeting at 9:15 am will be taking a break until January.

Pastor's Bible Class

Pastor Ben's Bible Class is moving to Thursdays at 7pm during Advent. Because of his quarantine, Pastor will be leading the class via Zoom. Please e-mail the church office if you need the link. This class takes a closer look at the lectionary readings for the coming Sunday.

-- Announcements --

Drive-Up Communion for Homebound Members

If you have been watching our services online or receiving a church bulletin in the mail during the pandemic but have not been able to attend in-person, we invite you to join us for a brief Holy Communion service on Wednesday, December 16th. Sign up online or call the church office for a private 10-minute time slot between 3 pm and 4:30 pm. Please limit one household per time slot. *(This communion service is intended to reach out to those who have been unable to attend our weekly worship services in-person. If you have been attending on Sunday mornings, we encourage you to continue receiving communion at that time.)*

TLS Fundraiser at Pie Five

From 11 am to 9 pm on Monday the 14th, your purchase at Pie Five supports TLS! Don't forget to mention Topeka Lutheran School at the register when you pay.

Christmas Gifts for TLS Teachers/Staff

As a thank you for all they do at Topeka Lutheran School, we are taking a collection for our congregation's members who work at TLS. If you would like to contribute toward this Christmas gift, you may place your gift in the offering plate (labeled "TLS Christmas Gift") or give online via PushPay. The cut-off date for Christmas gift contributions is Sunday, Dec. 13th, allowing us to deliver the gifts before the school goes to Christmas break.

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Betty C., Julie J., Don L., Brittian K. (Sondra K.'s grandson), Lance L., Jerry M., Bob T., Glenna L., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.'s sister), Judy P. (Lynne D.'s aunt), Mert B., Angela (Mary D.'s daughter), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Martin E., Anna (Frank J.'s mother), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Robert (Dave B.'s brother), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Julie (Heather S.'s cousin), Pat & Charles (friends of Dave B.), Willa H., Rene A. for a speedy adoption process for Barbara, our front line/essential workers, and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, the Schumachers and their ministry in Ghana, 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, 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 TLS 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.

The Coming of the Christ Brings True Rejoicing in His Forgiveness

When he preaches repentance, John the Baptist points us to Christ Jesus. John was sent by God *“as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him”* (John 1:7). He baptizes with water in order to *“make straight the way of the Lord,”* who shall redeem His people from their sins (John 1:23). That Lord Jesus *“who comes after”* John now stands among us and makes Himself known to us (John 1:26–27). He has been anointed by the Holy Spirit *“to bring good news to the poor”* and *“to bind up the brokenhearted”* (Is. 61:1). By the washing of the water with His Word and Spirit, He clothes His Church with *“the garments of salvation”* and adorns her with His own righteousness *“as a bride adorns herself with her jewels”* (Is. 61:10). Therefore, we *“rejoice always”* in the Lord, *“pray without ceasing”* and *“give thanks in all circumstances”* (1 Thess. 5:16–18). For *“the God of peace,”* who has called you by the Gospel, will surely *“sanctify you completely,”* so that *“your whole spirit and soul and body”* will *“be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (1 Thess. 5:23–24).

Offerings

We have multiple options for your gifts, tithes, and offerings. You can text CHRISTLCMS to 77977 to give via text message, or sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Or, use the “My Church by PushPay” app, with keyword CHRISTLCMS. You may also mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611). Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

Stewardship Corner

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	\$ 7,300
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 12/6</i>	\$10,390
<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan-Nov)</i>	\$352,088
<i>Offerings Received (Jan-Nov)</i>	\$323,864

1 Thessalonians 5:18 – “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” Christians express their thanks to God in many ways: in prayer, in giving to the Lord’s work, in acts of service to others, and in faithful living in their daily callings. Everything we do to honor God in our lives is a means of returning thanks for the Lord’s many gifts to us.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services

**DECEMBER 24TH
4:00 PM, 5:00 PM
6:00 PM, 7:00 PM**

**SIGN UP AT
CHRISTLCMS.ORG**



Christ Lutheran Church
3509 SW BURLINGAME RD, TOPEKA, KS

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, 3509 SW BURLINGAME RD, TOPEKA, KS



New Year's Eve Worship

WITH COMMUNION



THURSDAY, DEC. 31ST

7:00 PM



JOIN US IN WORSHIP AS WE THANK GOD
FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US THIS YEAR,
AND ASK FOR HIS BLESSINGS IN THE COMING YEAR.



ALL ARE INVITED TO WORSHIP.
PLEASE SPEAK WITH THE PASTOR BEFORE THE SERVICE
IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING OUR COMMUNION BELIEFS.

SIGN UP AT CHRISTLCMS.ORG

Advent Worship Services



Join us in worship as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

-- sign up at christlems.org --

Wednesday, Dec. 2nd - 5:00 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 9th - 5:00 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 16th - 5:00 PM

Wednesday, Dec. 23rd - 5:00 PM

If the 5 PM service is full to our safely distanced capacity,
we will add a second worship service at 6:00 PM.



Christ Lutheran Church - 3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS

Acknowledgments

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