

## **Second Sunday in Advent December 4, 2022**

**As We Gather** - For many Christian people, reading the Word of our Lord from a "red letter" edition of the Bible is a special blessing. Seeing the words of Christ highlighted in a special color may make them more immediate and noticeable. The last sentence with red words in those Bible editions is Revelation 22:20, in which the Lord promises: "Surely I am coming soon." John, the writer of Revelation, follows with these inspired words: "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" Those words became part of the worship life for many in the Early Church as they expectantly awaited the return of the Lord to the earth and the completion of His promised eternal kingdom. In the season of Advent, we echo that ancient yearning cry: "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!"

**Offering:** Offerings will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

**The Wearing of Masks:** To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 are highly encouraged to wear a mask or stay home. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

**GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.**

**Prelude and Meditation:** Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

**Prelude:**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Confession and Absolution

### Hymn of Invocation: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344

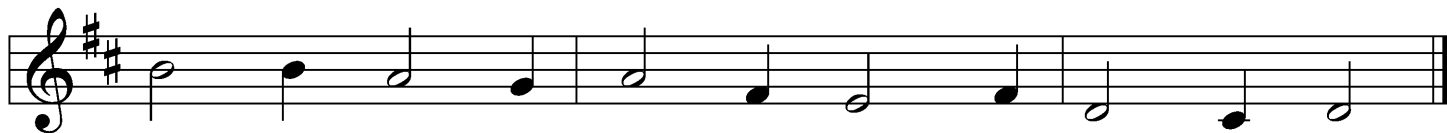
△ Please stand after a brief interlude



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
way for God with - in, And let us all our  
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite  
Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621  
Text and tune: Public domain

Remain Standing

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

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

**C** Amen.

**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.

**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.**

**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 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b*

In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Seek the LORD and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

He is the LORD our God;

his judgments are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever,

the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

**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.**

In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**Kyrie**

**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.



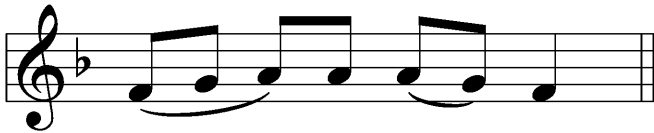
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**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

**P** The Lord be with you.



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

**P** Let us pray.

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



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 11:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

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

## Epistle

*Romans 15:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

<sup>11</sup>And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

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

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



**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 3:1–12

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



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

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children

for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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



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

### Apostles' Creed

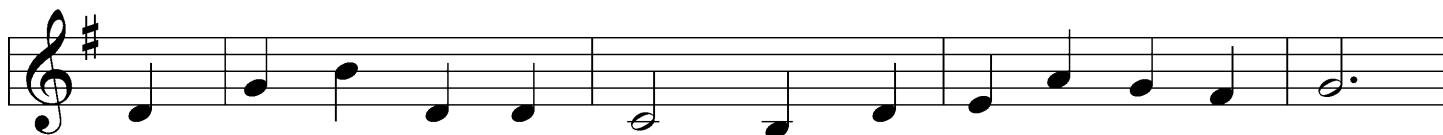
**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

*Sit*

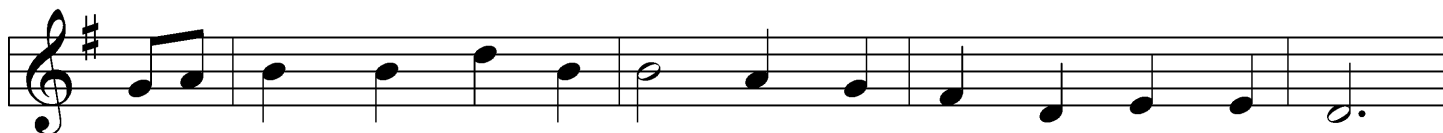




1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;  
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;  
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'rings bore,  
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.  
 Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.  
 Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.  
 A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.  
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.  
 A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.  
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.  
 In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.  
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.

Tune: Swedish

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon:

### “Come to the Wedding”

**Matthew 22:3, Luke 14:18, Revelation 19:9**

## A Sending Creed (Based on the Apostles' Creed)

**C** God, the sending Father, the Almighty creator of the cosmos, Sent His only Son Jesus Christ to be conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He was sent to proclaim freedom. He then suffered at the hands of many, including Pontius Pilate. He was crucified, died, and buried. Within three days, He descended into hell to proclaim victory and rose to life granting God's righteousness by grace through faith. Forty days later, He ascended to heaven. He now eternally reigns at the right hand of His Father. He is judge of all the living and the dead, and He gives life to all who believe in Him.

After the ascension, the Father and Son sent the Holy Spirit to boldly make and call all followers of Christ to His holy apostolic church. He calls us, a community of believers, who are sent to all people with power and strength, courage, and gifts to proclaim the Good News. As the apostles were sent, people believed. As those people believed, they, too, were sent. As they were sent, now we believe. And as we believe, we are sent. Amen.

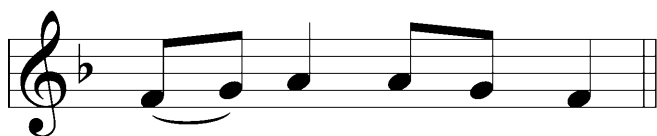
## Prayer of the Church

### *Service of the Sacrament*

#### Preface

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.

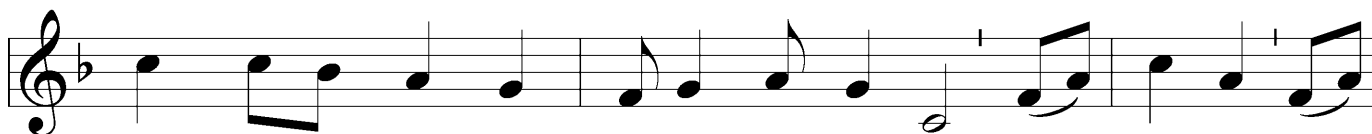
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the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

### Sanctus

LSB 161



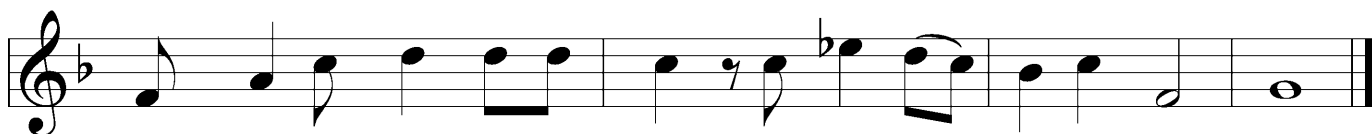
**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



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

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We thank You for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to be our Redeemer, saving us from the power of sin, death, and the devil, and blessing our lives with lasting peace. Invited by Your grace, we come to Your Table expectantly and hopefully with gratitude and joy. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood that we grow as people of faith and peace, awaiting with hope the eternal feast in glory everlasting.

**C** 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."

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## Pax Domini

LSB 163

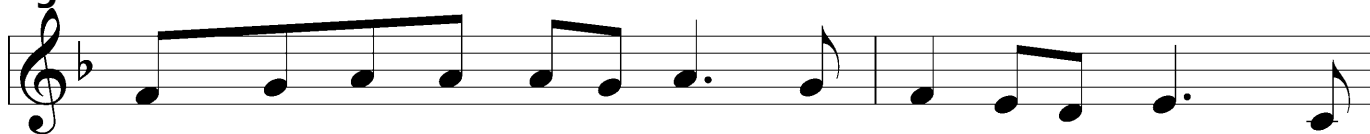
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



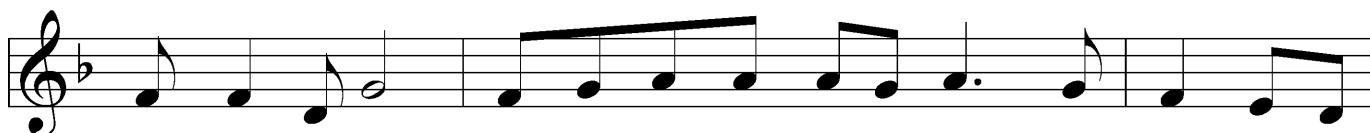
**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

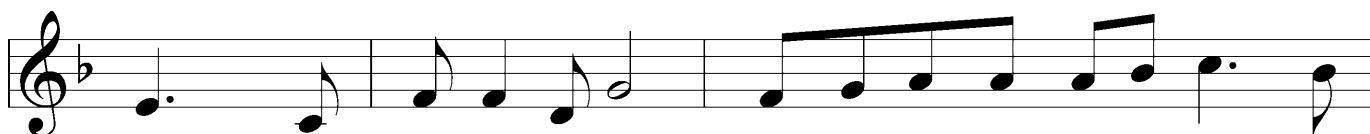
LSB 163



**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:

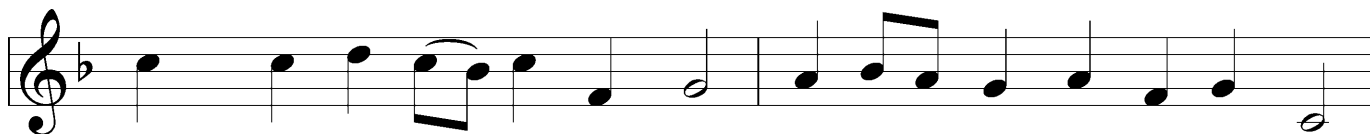
### Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

**Thank the Lord**

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****(Saturday)**

**P** Let us pray together.

**C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. 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.

**(Sunday)**

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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.

**Benediction**

*LSB 166*

**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.

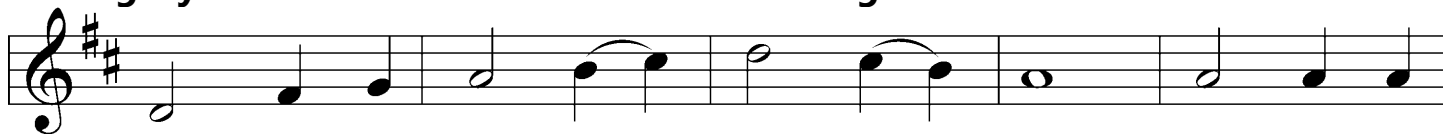


**C** A - men.

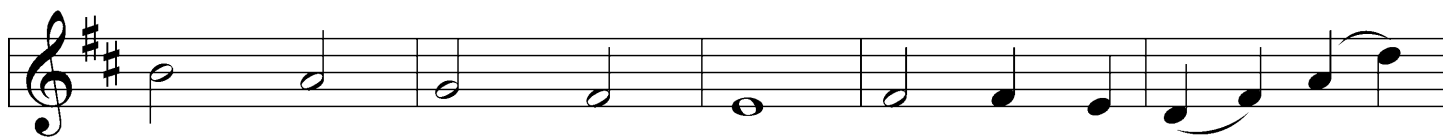
**Closing Hymn:**

**Jesus Shall Reign**

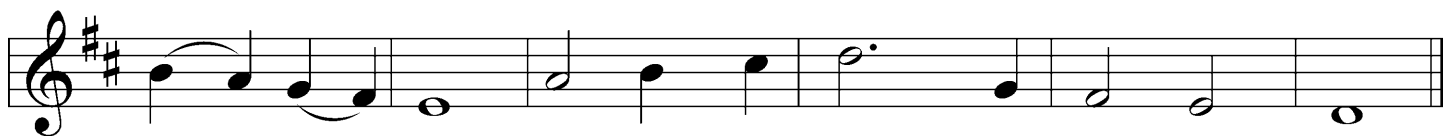
LSB 832



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -  
 2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from  
 prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es  
 leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793 Text and tune: Public domain

**Postlude:**

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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**LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

**Pastor**..... Pastor Christopher Hazzard

**Organist**..... Carol Ceaglske

**Saturday**

**Elder**..... Lee Crapo

**Lector**..... Geri Slaten/Rick Smith

**Audio**..... Lee Crapo/Robin Fox



**Sunday**

<b>Elder</b> .....	Carlos Orellana
<b>Lector</b> .....	.....
<b>Greeter</b> .....	Joann Shepker
<b>Audio</b> .....	Maria Hazzard
<b>Video</b> .....	Video TD: Kris Welch GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Barbara and Alfred Miller

**LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY**

<b>Pastor</b> .....	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
<b>Organist</b> .....	Carol Ceaglske
<b>Elder</b> .....	Lee Crapo
<b>Lector</b> .....	Jon Lindstrom
<b>Greeter</b> .....	Pat Hurd
<b>Audio</b> .....	Kyle Welch
<b>Video</b> .....	Video TD: Kris Welch GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox
<b>Altar Guild</b> .....	Barbara and Alfred Miller

**ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK**

Thanksgiving Eve Service.....	22
Saturday Worship Attendance.....	24
Sunday Worship Attendance.....	88
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings .....	\$5,032.00
Simply Giving/Vanco.....	\$0
Paypal Offerings .....	\$0
Website (ShareFaith).....	\$225.00
<b>Total of Offerings Received</b> .....	\$5,257.00
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts.....	\$90.00

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH- Advent II** – Our sinfulness once left us lifeless as stones, but God has taken us for His own beloved children (Matthew 3:9) by becoming a little one among us Himself (Isaiah 11:6). Now we get to welcome others as Christ has welcomed us. We proclaim the sanctity of every human life to defend the cause of the poor, and we put it into practice to give deliverance to the children of the needy (Psalm 72:4).

**FLOWER SPONSOR**– Robert and Cheryl Langanke, in memory of James Fleck.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR** – No Bulletin sponsor this week.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** –Team 4 is serving today; team 5 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary.

**ELDERS MEETING** – The Elders will meet today (Sunday), after service.

**OUTREACH MEETING** – The Outreach committee will meet Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm.

**NO BIBLE STUDY THIS WEDNESDAY** - The Wednesday Bible Study on December 7<sup>th</sup> at Noon is cancelled. It will resume next week on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ADVENT SERVICES** – Advent Services will be at 6:30 pm, December 7<sup>th</sup>, December 14<sup>th</sup>, and a Blue Christmas Service on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**MARY MARTHA DECEMBER MEETING & LUNCHEON** – The Mary Martha December meeting will be Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 11am followed by the Mary Martha **Christmas Luncheon** at 11:30am at Huntington Hills, 2626 Duff Rd, Lakeland. Please sign-up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex and indicate your menu choice (Tuscan Chicken Salad, Fried Haddock Sandwich, or a Hamburger). The cost is \$15.00 for meal and drink, plus tip. All ladies are welcome to attend whether or not you are a member of Mary-Martha!

**ANGEL TREE** – For many years, Christ Lutheran has purchased Christmas gifts for the children who live at Lighthouse Ministries. This year we have 22 children. On the white tree as you enter the church, you will see tags. Each child has two tags on the tree. One is something the child would like, and the other is something the parent has said the child would like. We asked that all gifts be between \$20-\$25. Please return the gift-UNWRAPPED-with the tag attached by **December 11** (next Sunday). There will be a special decorated box for the gifts. We also need donations of gift wrap, gift tags, and scotch tape. If you prefer to make a cash donation, please use one of the special envelopes that are in the pew and mark it for Lighthouse.

**ENJOYMENT BOOKS** – If you are interested in purchasing an Enjoyment Coupon Book (Polk County) for \$30, please contact Tere Morone at 607-765-0001. Shipping is free and will ship within two days.

**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPE PACKETS** will be available in your church mailboxes in December. Be sure to use these envelopes for your contributions. The only way you can be sure your contributions are recorded properly is by using these envelopes. If you use a pew envelope you must put your envelope number on it or you may not get credit for your contribution. Your contribution is posted only by your envelope number. It is a good idea to leave your envelope packet in your church mailbox so it is handy when you attend service. If you send your offering by the USPS, from your bank, or a personal check, please identify your check by your envelope number just like you do when you are paying a bill. Please do not use these 2023 envelopes until next year. Thank you for your gifts of treasure.

**NEW FLOWER CHART FOR 2023** - There will be a new 2023 Flower Chart on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. You can sign up to place Flowers in the Altar area in honor of someone, birthdays and anniversaries or any other occasions. Please put your name and what occasion the flowers are for, so it can be noted in the Bulletins. The donations for the flowers are used to purchase the flowers for Easter and Christmas services. If you have any questions call Barbara Miller 863-858-5790

**CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS** – There is still time to bring in your family ornaments for our tree in the Fellowship Hall. We would like a non-breakable ornament that you have written your family name on with a marker. We would prefer Christmas themed ornaments. Let's get this tree covered!

**RECIPES WANTED** - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** – If you are a seasonal visitor and would be interested in an Associate Membership with Christ Lutheran, please see an Elder.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at [stewardship@clclakeland.org](mailto:stewardship@clclakeland.org).

**GREETERS NEEDED** – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

**TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY** – If you are interested in volunteering to help with maintenance around the church, please contact Sandy Spanier at 863-665-5572.

**NAMETAGS** – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER- Matthew 3:1-2 – “In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”** John prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance. Then, when Jesus' ministry was complete and He was raised from the dead, He sent out His disciples to preach “repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Luke 24:47). We never outgrow the need for repentance — for examining our lives, turning away from our sins, and turning toward Jesus in faith to receive his forgiveness and strength for a renewed life of godliness.

### **THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN**

Tuesday ..... Quilters @ 10 am  
Trustee/Volunteer Work Day 9 am-Noon  
Outreach Meeting @ 5:30 pm

Wednesday ..... Mary Martha Meeting @ 10 am  
Mary Martha Christmas Luncheon @ 11:30 am  
**NO** Bible Study  
Private Communion 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
Advent Service @ 6:30 pm

Friday.....Church Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off

Saturday.....Worship @ 5:30 pm

Sunday.....Bible Study @ 8:30 am  
Worship Service @ 10 am  
Bible Study @ 11:15 am