

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
2107 Three Oaks Rd, Cary, IL  
December 4 & 5, 2021  
**Observing the Second Sunday in Advent**

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Inspired by Christ • Serving under Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ

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Order of Service from Setting I, page 151 in the Lutheran Service Book

OPENING HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

LSB 343

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.** *Matt 28:19*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.** *1 Jn 1:8-9*

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. *Jn 1:12; Phil. 1:6*

**C: Amen.**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

INTROIT

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

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

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

KYRIE *Mark 10:47*

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.**

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 mercy.**

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

**C:** ♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C:** ♪ **Amen.**

#### HYMN OF PRAISE

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel**

#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Tim 4:22*

**C: And also with you.**

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

**C: Amen.**

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Malachi 3:1–7b

“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. “For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 1:2–11

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

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE ALLELUIA

**C:** ♪ **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**C:** ♪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1–14

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. 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." And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** ♪ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

LSB 344

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

**C:** ♪ **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**C:** ♪ **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should in all times and 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

sinner to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS *Isaiah 6:3; Matt. 21:9*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might;  
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. *Jn. 20:19*

**C: 🎵 Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *Jn 1:29*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“When all the World was Cursed”  
“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

LSB 346  
LSB 623

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

**Lord, now You let your servant go in peace;  
Your word has been fulfilled:  
my own eyes have seen the salvation  
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:  
a light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.  
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.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P:** O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

LSB 350