

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
2107 Three Oaks Rd, Cary, IL  
December 11 & 12, 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

"Hark the Glad Sound"

LSB 349

**Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long,  
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne, and ev'ry voice a song.**

**He comes the prisoner to release, in Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst, the iron fetters yield.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace, to-enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav'n's eternal arches ring, with Thy beloved name.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

INVOCATION

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

**C: Amen.**

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.**

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

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

**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.**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

## KYRIE

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.

**C: And also with you.**

P: 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: Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Zephaniah 3:14–20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. <sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C:** ♪ Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 7:18–28

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” <sup>24</sup>When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’” <sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** ♪ Praise to you, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

**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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People”

LSB 347

**“Comfort, comfort ye My people, Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God;  
“Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning ‘neath their sorrows’ load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell her that her sins I cover And her warfare now is over.”**

**Yea, her sins our God will pardon, Blotting out each dark misdeed;  
All that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed.  
She hath suffered many-a day, Now her griefs have passed away;  
God will change her pining sadness Into everspringing gladness.**

**Hark, the herald’s voice is crying In the desert far and near,  
Calling sinners to repentance, Since the Kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away;  
Let the valleys rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.**

**Make ye straight what long was crooked; Make the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits His holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed abroad,  
And all flesh shall see the token That His Word is never broken.**

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 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 all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS

**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.

C: **♩ Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

**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

“Rejoice My Heart, Be Glad and Sing”  
“In Thee is Gladness”

LSB 737  
LSB 818

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done.**

**Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.**

**He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia!**

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

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

LSB 803

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, praising Thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the gloom of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!**

**All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, fountain-head of love divine:  
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!**