

GAUDETE

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Sunday 17 December A✠D 2023



OUR SAVIOR

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—Missouri Synod

4000 Wallings Road ✠ North Royalton, Ohio 44133
(216) 381-2873 ✠ oursaviornorthroyalton.org
Rev. Jonathan C. McCall, Pastor

✠ Hymns ✠

347

345

344

556

Wooden kneeling stools are available to all for use during the Preparation, Consecration, and Benediction. If you would like one, please take it from underneath the last row of chairs on the pulpit side of the nave before service. You may tuck it under the pew in front of you while not in use and may leave it there after the service.

This morning we will celebrate Holy Communion

Visitors who have not before received communion from Pastor McCall are kindly asked to speak with him before Divine Service begins and before approaching the altar for the first time. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily do so to their great harm, it is very important to speak with pastor before service if you desire the Blessed Sacrament. Also, those who receive the Lord's Supper at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith. For these reasons, *only members of this congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* receive Holy Communion at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine and practice of Closed Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the Divine Service.

NOTE: *During Advent, numerous portions of the liturgical responses are spoken, not chanted as usual, as we fast in this way in preparation for our coming Lord. If a response is lacking its usual musical notation in the bulletin, that means it is spoken. (e.g. The Salutation, Collect, Preface.) The Gloria in Excelsis goes away until we sing it again with the angels on Christmas Eve.*

✠ THE DIVINE SERVICE ✠

10:30am

THE PRELUDE

The bell tolls three times to signify the beginning of service in reverence of the Holy Trinity. After the tolls, the Processional Hymn will begin.

Please STAND and face the Procession (beginning at the rear of the nave).

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 347 *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
ST. MATTHEW 28:19B; [18:20]

Amen.

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[HEBREWS 10:22]

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

PSALM 124:8

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

PSALM 32:5

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. The pastor will resume...

O almighty God, merciful Father, I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

[ST. JOHN 20:19-23]

STAND

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

THE INTROIT

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5; PSALM 85:1, 2, 6, 8



| Re-| joice / in the LORD alway:
and / again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known / unto all men.

The / LORD is at hand.-

LORD, thou hast been favourable un- / to thy lând:
thou hast brought back the capti- / vity of Jacob.

**Thou hast forgiven the iniquity / of thy people,
thou / hast covered all their sin.**

Wilt thou not revive / us agâin:

that thy peo- / ple may rejoice in thee?

I will hear what God the LORD will speak:

for he will speak peace unto his people,

and / to his sâints:

but let them not turn / again to folly.

Glory be to the Fa- / ther and to the Son

and to / the Holy Spirit;

As it was in / the beginning,

is now, and will be / forever. Amen.

| Re-| joice / in the LORD alway:

and / again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known / unto all men.

The / LORD is at hand.-

THE KYRIE

ST. MARK 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE SALUTATION

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

SIT

THE OLD TESTAMENT

ISAIAH 40:1-8

Thus says the LORD God: “Comfort, yes, comfort My people!” says your God. “Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.” The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” The voice said, “Cry out!” And he said, “What shall I cry?” “All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



THE GRADUAL

PSALM 80:1-2



Thou that dwellest between the che- / rubims, shine forth;
stir up thy strength, / and come and save us.

**Give ear, O Shep- / herd of Israel,
thou that lead- / est Joseph like a flock.**

THE EPISTLE

1 CORINTHIANS 4:1-5

Brethren: Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

THE ALLELUIA VERSE

PSALM 80:2B



- / Alleluia.

- / Alle-luia.

**Stir / up thy strêngth,
and come and save us. / Alle-luia.**



THE HOLY GOSPEL

ST. MATTHEW 11:2-10

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

✠ *At that time:* When John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: the blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.” As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.’”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE 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.

SIT

THE HYMN OF THE DAY 345 *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

THE SERMON

STAND

THE OFFERTORY

PSALM 51:10-12

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

SIT

THE OFFERING

Sing Praise to the God of Israel

STAND

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4]

- please read the announcements and prayer list details on bulletin insert

After each bid: Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

At the conclusion: O Lord, ... one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE SERVICE OF

✠ THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR ✠

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

[COLOSSIANS 3:1]

We lift them up unto the LORD.

Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.

[PSALM 136]

It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary... praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS

ISAIAH 6:3; ST. MATTHEW 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. ✠ Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (LSB p. 196)

ST. MATTHEW 6:9-13

THE WORDS OF CHRIST'S TESTAMENT

ST. MATTHEW 26:26-28;

ST. MARK 14:22-24; ST. LUKE 22:19-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-25

THE PAX DOMINI

ST. JOHN 20:19

The ✠ peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI

ST. JOHN 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

SIT

THE COMMUNION HYMNS

344 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

556 *Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice*

STAND

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

ST. LUKE 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THE THANKSGIVING

PSALM 107:1

Oh, give thanks unto the LORD for He is good.

And His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech 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.

Amen.

THE SALUTATION

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

THE BENEDICAMUS

[PSALM 103:1]

Bless we the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE

THE BENEDICTION

NUMBERS 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

STAND

THE RETIRING PROCESSION WITH POSTLUDE

Please face the Procession as it passes your pew.

Once the Retiring Procession reaches the narthex, depart in ✠ peace.



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