

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod



Second Sunday in Advent

December 10, 2023

Divine Service, Setting One – LSB 151

8:00 & 10:30*am, 5:00 pm

*livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

AS WE GATHER

You Are Prepared through Repentance for the Coming of the Lord

“The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes “proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Mark 1:4). As the prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means, “the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together” (Is. 40:5), and the Good Shepherd “will gather the lambs in his arms” (Is. 40:11). He speaks “tenderly to Jerusalem,” and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Is. 40:1–2). What is more, He promises “new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Peter 3:14), because He “is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance” (2 Peter 3:9).

[Rev. Eric J. Edwards](#) † [Rev. Christopher Beck](#) † [Rev. Liwei Sui](#)

2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN † 812-332-1668 † office@faithbtown.org

✠ ✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠ ✠

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC – *Variations on On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry*
(arr. Franklin D. Ashdown)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 357 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vv. 1, 3)

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
Refrain
Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Tune and text: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** In the season of Advent, we prepare for Jesus to come. We await the celebration of His birth at Christmas. We remember His arrival in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. We long for His glorious return. As we wait, we consider how unworthy we are to have Jesus in our presence.
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)

For parents with young children:
It is our joy to serve you in this hour of worship!

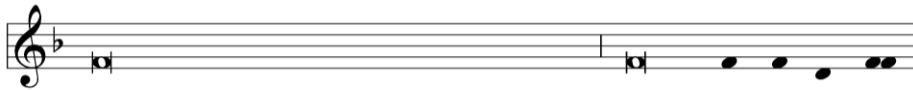
A special reminder of some resources available to help you in guiding your child through worship:

***Cry room** in the preschool wing when a personal space is needed,

***Children's activities/resources** to engage them in the service (near the sanctuary doors),

***Library** with books to read and calm your child,

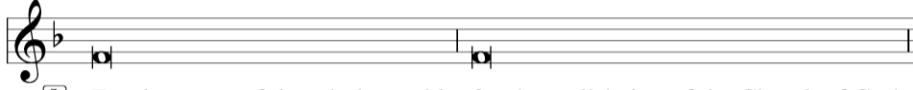
***NEW:** hand-held **vacuum cleaner** in the ushers' stand, for use as needed *after* the service.



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A 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.



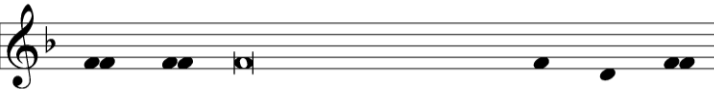
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

P Let us pray... one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 40:1-11 – The Lord comes to comfort and pardon His people.

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

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

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the Lord blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”

¹⁰Behold, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL – Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

The congregation sings all.



Re - joyce great-ly, O daught-er of Zi - on!



Shout, shout, daugh-ter of Je - ru - sa-lem. See, your



King comes to you, right-eous and hav-ing sal - va - tion.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



From the house of the Lord we bless you.

SECOND LESSON – 2 Peter 3:8-14 – The Lord is patient toward you.

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE – Isaiah 40:3, 5

The choir/cantor sings the Alleluias and the congregation repeats them.

The congregation then repeats the Alleluias after the verse.



*Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.*

HOLY GOSPEL – Mark 1:1-8 – The messenger prepares the way of the Lord.

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,

³the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.”

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

8 am – CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY – LSB 344 – On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry



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
 Δ 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 and tune: Public domain

SERMON – *Prepare the Way* – Mark 1:1-8

8 am– 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.

10:30 am & 5 pm – NICENE CREED

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.

Liturgy and Hymns
reprinted from
Lutheran Service
Builder and used by
permission: LSB Hymn
License no.
110001557.

Scripture – from The
Holy Bible, English
Standard Version®,
copyright © 2001 by
Crossway Bibles, a
publishing ministry of
Good News Publishers.
Used by permission.
All rights reserved.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A** Come, Lord Jesus, our gracious King! **C** To You alone our prayers we bring.
A ...both now and forever. **C** Amen.

OFFERING – *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (arr. Kenneth T. Kosche)

OFFERTORY – *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*



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.

8:00am – Continues with the Lord’s Prayer (page 11)
and concludes with the Benediction and Hymn to Depart (page 15-16).

✠ ✠ ✠ SACRAMENT ✠ ✠ ✠

10:30 am & 5:00pm
beginning at LSB 160

For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that **in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is truly present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.**

Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe, have been baptized, and have been taught** according to our Lord’s command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

- **If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith**, we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.
- **If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord’s Supper**, please speak with one of our pastors.

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



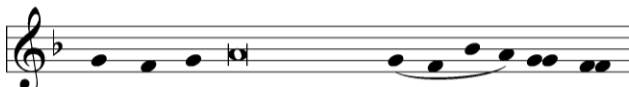
C And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



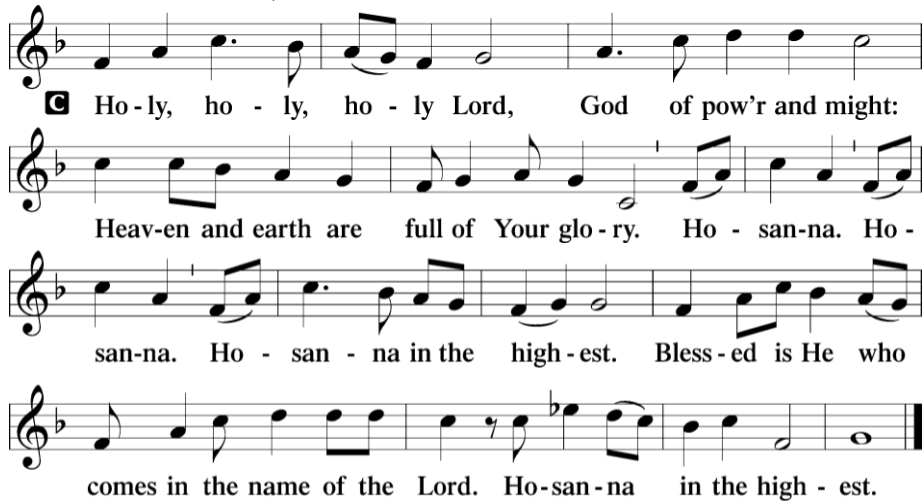
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS – *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



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 ...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI – *The Peace of the Lord* – *John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI – Lamb of God – John 1:29

☐ 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.

Distribution Notes:

If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

Non-alcoholic grape juice, containing a *trace amount of wine*, is available in the center of the tray.

DISTRIBUTION

Anthem – Keep Your Lamps! (arr. André Thomas)
Enge Huang, congas

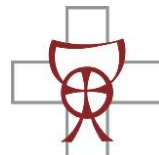
*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, ...
the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary...
'til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over....
The time is drawing nigh.*

LSB 346 – When All the World Was Cursed

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.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557
 Tune: Public domain

LSB 334 – O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel-come You a-right?
 2 Your Zi-on strews be-fore You Green boughs and fair-est palms;
 3 I lay in fet-ters, groan-ing; You came to set me free.
 4 Love caused Your in-car-na-tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo-ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de-light!
 And I too will a-dore You With joy-ous songs and psalms.
 I stood, my shame be-moan-ing; You came to hon-or me.
 Your thirst for my sal-va-tion Pro-cured my lib-er-ty.



O kin-dle, Lord most ho-ly, Your lamp with-in my breast
 My heart shall bloom for-ev-er For You with prais-es new
 A glo-rious crown You give me, A trea-sure safe on high
 Oh, love be-yond all tell-ing, That led You to em-brace



To do in spir-it low-ly All that may please You best.
 And from Your name shall nev-er With-hold the hon-or due.
 That will not fail or leave me As earth-ly rich-es fly.
 In love, all love ex-cel-ling, Our lost and fall-en race.

5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
 Cannot His love erase;
 Your guilt the Lord will pardon
 And cover by His grace.
 He comes, for you procuring
 The peace of sin forgiv'n,
 His children thus securing
 Eternal life in heav'n.

6 He comes to judge the nations,
 A terror to His foes,
 A light of consolations
 And blessèd hope to those
 Who love the Lord's appearing.
 O glorious Sun, now come,
 Send forth Your beams so cheering,
 And guide us safely home.

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 350 – Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – Thank the Lord



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 We give thanks to You, almighty God ... one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

BENEDICTION – Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **C** Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 518 – By All Your Saints in Warfare (vv. 1, 18, 24, 3)



1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For
2 We praise You for the Bap - tist, Fore -
2 Our thanks for John the Bap - tist Who,
△ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And



all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O
run - ner of the Word, Our true E - li - jah,
till his dy - ing day, Made straight paths for the
wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the



Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For
mak - ing A high - way for the Lord. The
Sav - ior And her - ald - ed His way! In
Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till



You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the
last and great - est proph - et, He saw the dawn - ing
wit - ness - ing to Je - sus Through times of threat or
all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the



crown; And now they shine in glo - ry
ray Of light that grows in splen - dor
shame May we with faith and cour - age
throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed from Your throne.
 Un - til the per - fect day.
 The Lamb of God pro - claim.
 And praise to God a - lone.

Text (sts. 1, 18, 3): Public domain
 Text (st. 24): © 2006 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001557
 Tune: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-SERVICE MUSIC – *On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry* (arr. Jacob B. Weber)



TODAY

- **9:15am** Sunday School + Bible study
- **11:30am Info Meeting for 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering**
- **11:30am** Confirmation Class
- **6:00pm** FLY

Monday, December 11

- **5:30pm** School Board

Tuesday, December 12

- **10am** Fellowship Ministry Team
- **10am-8pm** Bell-ringing for Salvation Army (Kroger East)
- **5:15pm** First Steps in Music
- **6:15pm** Children’s Choir

Wednesday, December 13 – Midweek Advent Fellowship & Worship

Thursday, December 14 (12 Noon) – JOY Group (home of Becky Marks)

Saturday, December 16 – FLY Christmas Party

Sunday, December 17 (10:30am) – Sunday School Christmas Service

