



**As We Gather                      Second Sunday in Advent                      Dec. 4, 2022**

In the opening verses of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, John greets the readers of his epistle in this singular way: “Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come” (Revelation 1:4). John is confident that God’s grace is readily available for the readers of his letter who are scattered in many Christian gatherings across the area of Asia. And he is certain that the peace of God can reach to all of his readers in their very different and individual situations. The Advent season brings us the assurance that God’s plan is still unfolding and that we continue to abide in His peace. In this season of busyness, we can be peaceful and peaceable people by God’s grace!

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**Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.  
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.**

**A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.**

## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION**



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- \*Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- \*Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- \*Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- \*Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

### **Please Note**

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church to come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,  
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.  
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

**PRELUDE** Prelude in A Minor - Buxtehude  
**WELCOME**

**PREPARATION**

**OPENING HYMN** #338 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**INVOCATION**

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

**C** Amen.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**



**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, let the lighting of this candle signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

A musical score for the hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus". It consists of six staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "2 For-give us, Lord, for times when peace was lost, And mo - ments when we nev - er thought to love, For times when we op - press and of - fend And fight for things that kill us in the end. For - give, for - give, for - give us all our sins And help us be in peace with all our kin." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a clear melody and accompaniment.

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## OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 80:1, 3, 14a, 17; 40:1, 3a

- P** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
- C** **Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**
- P** Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see.
- C** **But let Your hand be on the man of Your right hand, the son of man whom You have made strong for Yourself!**
- P** I waited patiently for the LORD; He inclined to me and heard my cry.
- C** **He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** O God, our Father, You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son. We confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.
- C** **Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. We acknowledge our sinful nature and confess our sinful thoughts, words, and deed. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.**
- P** Upon this your confession and by the command of our Lord, I, a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.
- C** **Amen.**

## WORD

### INTROIT *Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3*

- P** A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”
- C** **Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually!**
- P** 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!
- C** **He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth.**

- P** He remembers His covenant forever, the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.
- 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** A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
- C** **make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”**

## KYRIE

LSB 227



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

## SALUTATION

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.  
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come to us with Your presence. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and grant us a deep and abiding peace for all of our days. By the working of the Holy Spirit, lead us to share that joy we now know as Your gift. Keep us in true faith until the coming of Your everlasting kingdom where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING      **Isaiah 11:1–10**

“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 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. 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, 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. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. 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.

The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. 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. 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 READING    Romans 15:4–13**

“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. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. 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, 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.” And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.” And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.” And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” 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**

**P** Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight;

**C** **all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL    Matthew 3:1–12**

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

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” 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.’” Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. 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? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. 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. 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. “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. 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.

**CHOIR** “Prepare the Way of the Lord” - Lloyd Larson

**SERMON** “A Leader For Our Times!” Isaiah 11:1-10

**CREED** **Apostles’ Creed** *The Second Article Explanation*

**P** In the Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed, echoing the proclamation of John the Baptist, we confess Jesus to be the Savior, the One who fulfills God’s promises.

**C** **I believe 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.**

**P** What does this mean?

**C** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs.

Come, O Lord, among us, that as people united in faith, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus. With hope we pray:

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

**P** [*Petitions...*] With hope we pray:

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

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY      LSB 192

**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

## 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.

## PROPER PREFACE

- 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 saying:

## SANCTUS LSB 178

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow’r and might:  
Heav’n and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE 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

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

## AGNUS DEI LSB 163

- C** 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 HYMNS

#343 Prepare the Royal Highway

#628 Your Table I Approach

#684 Come Unto Me, Ye Weary

#744 Amazing Grace

### NUNC DIMITTIS “Lord, Let Your Servants Go In Peace”



1 Lord, let Your ser - vants go in peace; Your cov - e -  
2 For all the na - tions He is light, For Is - rael,



nant shall nev - er cease. The prom - ised Sav - ior  
glo - ry in plain sight. To Fa - ther, Son, and



here we see; His blood and bod - y set us free.  
Spir - it sing— Three per - sons, yet for - ev - er one.

(Text: James Pierce)

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

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### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we thank You for having welcomed us at Your Table, giving us a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. Strengthen us through this blessed gift that we may live in hope-filled anticipation of the end of all earthly things and await with joy Your final coming in glory. Grant that Your Holy Spirit enlighten us with His gifts that we be kept in the true faith until the last and greatest day of our Lord's return. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

**C** Amen.

### BENEDICTION

**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** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN # 832 “Jesus Shall Reign”** Sts. 1–2, 5

**ANNOUNCEMENTS  
POSTLUDE**

+ + + + +

**Altar flowers today are given by Dave & Lori Gnacinski  
in honor of their 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

**Reader Today: Jan Aslin**

**PRAYER LIST:** Mike Carpenter, back surgery Tues.; Carol VanLente, recovery; Harold Holtz, cancer treatment; Deedee Halterman, lung cancer, sister-in-law of Maggie Halterman; Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Tues. Dec. 6	10:00 a.m.	LWA meeting
Tues. Dec. 6	11:00 a.m.	Childcare Chapel
Wed. Dec. 7	8:00 a.m.	Breakfast at the Casa
Wed. Dec. 7	4:00 p.m.	Advent Midweek Service 4:45 Soup Supper
Thur Dec. 8	10:30 a.m.	Grief Support Group
Thur Dec. 8	10:30 a.m.	Jesus Time (Childcare Ctr)
Thur. Dec. 8	1:00 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study
<b>Thur. Dec. 8</b>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Choir – Note time change</b>

**JOIN US FOR THE NEXT TWO WEDNESDAYS!**

**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>** are the dates for our **Advent Midweek worship at 4:00 p.m.** with **soup supper following at 4:45 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. (Sign up sheet for soups etc. is on the signup table in the narthex.) Our Advent season reflections will be upon **Angels: The Ultimate Divine Messengers of Hope! In the midst of unbelieving doubt, fear of the unknown, and the seemingly impossible!**

**THANK YOU**

**Your response to our giving tree was wonderful!! Our childcare kids will have a great Christmas party. Please have your gifts returned to the church by Dec. 12.**

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Dec. 5 Christine Fourman    Dec. 8 Wendy Fullmer    Dec. 9 Lori Gnacinski  
Dec. 17 Crystal Camara    Dec. 18 Rita Owens    Dec. 25 Diane Herman

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Dec. 12 David & Lori Gnacinski    Dec. 18 Scott & Sheri Asay  
Dec. 23 Christine & Ed Fourman    Dec. 28 Ernie & Judy Duncker  
Dec. 28 Rudy & Mary Hammond

**HELPING HANDS AVAILABLE** Do you need a little help with a household chore, need a high light bulb changed or smoke detector battery changed? **Just let us know you have a need by writing your name and phone number on a little card in the clear box (card and pen inside) on the narthex table and we'll give you a call and make arrangements!** Spread the word – let your fellow members know!

**10 a.m. service available online at our Facebook page** (live and recorded - @MesquiteLCC). You do not need a Facebook account to view. Go to [facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live](https://facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live) or visit our website [mesquitelutheran.org/Online-Services](https://mesquitelutheran.org/Online-Services).

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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