

Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Populus Zion
(Second Sunday in Advent)
December 4, 2022

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The Order of Service

Divine Service Setting One (LSB 151)

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an *)*

Announcements

Opening Hymn: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

LSB 515

Confession and Absolution*

LSB 184

Introit*

(Ps. 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Is. 62:11b; 30:30, 29)

Say to the daughter of Zion,

“Behold, your salvation comes.”

The LORD will cause his majestic voice to be heard,

and you shall have gladness of heart.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!”

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Restore us, O God;

Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Turn again, O God of hosts!

Look down from heaven, and see.

But let your hand be on the man of your right hand,

the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!

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.

Say to the daughter of Zion,

“Behold, your salvation comes.”

The LORD will cause his majestic voice to be heard,

and you shall have gladness of heart.

Kyrie*

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent

Collect*: 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. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 4:1-6

¹ “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³ And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. ⁴ “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵ “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes; he does not keep silence; “Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”

Hymn: The Night Will Soon Be Ending

LSB 337

Epistle: Romans 15:4-13

⁴ For 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. ⁵ May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶ that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ 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, ⁹ 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.” ¹⁰ And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with

his people.”¹¹ And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.”¹² And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.”¹³ 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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia*

LSB 190

Holy Gospel*: Luke 21:25-36

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 21st chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹ And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰ As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴ “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed*

LSB 192

Hymn of the Day: O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

LSB 355

Sermon

Offertory*

LSB 192

Offering

Prayer of the Church*

Benediction*

Closing Hymn: The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

LSB 348

Announcements

What does this mean? The word “advent” is derived from the Latin words, advenire (to come to) and adventus (an arrival). That we might be prepared to celebrate the blessed Feast of the Nativity of Christ our Lord, the Church has set aside the season of Advent as a time to reflect and meditate upon the coming of our Lord Jesus in the Flesh, through His Word and Sacraments, and on the Last Day. Advent is also a time of preparation for Christ’s coming through repentance and faith.

The First Sunday in Advent is known as Ad Te Levavi, which, in Latin, means: “To You I lift up”. This is the opening phrase of the Introit, "To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul" (Psalm 25:1).

Where did the Gloria in Excelsis go? The Gloria in Excelsis is a hymn of praise that celebrates God coming among us in the person of Jesus. However, due to the penitential nature of Advent, this hymn of praise is omitted until we reach the joyous season of Christmas.

Private Confession and Absolution: The Lutheran Confessions state that private absolution should be retained and not abolished in the churches (Augsburg Confession, XI). With this in mind, if at any time you desire private confession and absolution, please give Pastor Jennings a call to set-up a time to meet privately.

Wednesday Night Religion: Wednesday Night Religion Class resumes this week. Please note the time change. Throughout the Season of Advent, we will meet from **5:45pm-6:45pm.**

Hymnals: There are large print hymnals available in the ushers’ room for those that wish to use them.

Advent Midweek Services: Whether it's a spouse or child, family or friend, coworker or classmate, we often set high expectations for those around us. Yet, disappointment comes

when our expectations are not met. During our midweek Advent Vespers, we will take a look at four different sons of men who were disappointments to their fathers - Cain, Ishmael, Esau, and Absalom. Yet, each week, we will also be pointed to a different Son who fulfills every hope and expectation in order to redeem us from our sins - Jesus Christ! So, join us on **Wednesday, November 30th, December 7th, 14th, and 21st at 7:00pm** for our midweek Advent Vespers as we consider the theme: "This Is My Son!"

Men's Club: The Men's Club will be holding our annual Christmas party on **Monday, December 5th at 6:00pm** at the Good Ole Days restaurant in New Baden. If you are planning on attending, please let Edwin Hermsmeyer or Steve Haun know by **December 4th**. Spouses and guests are welcome to attend.

Christmas Program Practice: Christmas program practice will be **December 10th from 9:00am-11:00am, December 17th from 1:00pm-3:00pm, and December 22nd from 6:00pm-7:30pm.**

All Ladies of the Congregation: All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend the Ladies Aid/LWML Christmas party on **December 12, 2022 at 6:00pm** in the school basement. Please **RSVP to Mia Zimmermann by December 5th**. For anyone attending the cost will be \$15.00 per meal.

Annual Social Night: The annual Advent social night will be on **December 14, 2022**. It will be held in the school basement following the 7:00pm Advent Vespers. Bring some cookies or snacks to share and enjoy a cup of coffee or hot cocoa while visiting with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

Congregational Potluck: Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer will be preaching here at Bethlehem on **December 18, 2022**. Following the service there will be a congregational potluck. Fried chicken will be provided. The Ladies Aid will be hosting the meal. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship of one another as we visit with Pastor Meyer.

Hey, need a Christmas gift? There are cookbooks available for \$20 each down in the office. Get in touch with one of the Ladies Aid/LWML members to get your cookbook today! It is filled with awesome recipes from some amazing cooks.

Sing and Sip: December 20, 2022 the ladies will be out caroling to the shut ins. Meet at **1:00pm** at school to carpool. After the caroling, the ladies are asked to bring finger foods and join over at Sharon Schneider's for some social time. If you would like to join in the fun, let Sharon (226-3353) know to expect you. All ladies are welcomed to join us.