



**St. John  
Lutheran  
Church**

2888 W Houghton  
Lake Dr  
Houghton Lake,  
MI 48629  
989-366-5164

**5:00 pm - Advent**



**December 13, 2023**

# **Welcome**

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

May God bless your worship with us today,  
*Paul Kruse, Pastor*

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***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live, Learn,  
Share, and Serve'***

***Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of  
Christian faith in our community, to all generations,  
wherever they may be'***

## Service Setting for Today

*Divine Service Four* (pp 203ff)

### **Pastor Adam Flanick – Our Savior Lutheran Church, Gladwin**

*Rev Adam Flanick has served as Pastor of Our Savior in Gladwin since January 2023. He is married to Meghan and together they have been blessed with three children, Judah, Elias, and Hope.*

## **A Time of Preparation**

### **Prelude**

### **“Hope Has A Name”**

Breaking through the silence With glory in the highest  
The hope of all creation Resting in his mother's arms

A song on the horizon Ringing through the heavens

The long-awaited Savior

Come to set the captives free

Come to set the captives free

Come set us free

Hope has a name Emmanuel

The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness

All hail the King Emmanuel

The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

We didn't see it coming The story of redemption

What started in a manger Ended in an empty grave

Oh I know that

Hope has a name Emmanuel

The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness

All hail the King Emmanuel

The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

Come if you're broken Come if you're searching

If you need healing He's where you find it

Lay down your burdens And breathe in forgiveness

If you need freedom Yeah He's where you find it

Oh if you need freedom Yeah He's where you find it

Yeah He's where you find it oh  
Hope has a name Emmanuel  
The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness  
All hail the King Emmanuel  
The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven  
Hope has a name Emmanuel  
The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness  
All hail the King Emmanuel  
The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

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## Welcome, and Sharing of the Peace

### Opening Song

### “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

### Invocation

LSB 203

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

**C** Amen.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.*

### Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Almighty God,

**G Have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**G Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

*LSB 204*

**G Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G And also with you.**

**P** 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.

**G Amen.**

## **First Reading**

*“Genesis 3:11-19”*

<sup>11</sup> He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” <sup>14</sup> The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.”<sup>17</sup> And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; <sup>18</sup> thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

Romans 5:12-21

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— <sup>13</sup> for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. <sup>16</sup> And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. <sup>17</sup> For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup> For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. <sup>20</sup> Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, <sup>21</sup> so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Alleluia**

*LSB 205*

**G** **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Luke 1:46-55

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

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

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,<sup>48</sup> for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup> for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup> And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; <sup>52</sup> he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; <sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup> as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**G** **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.**

## Message Song

## “Make Room”

A family hiding from the storm found no place at the keeper's door.  
It was for this a child was born: To save a world so cold and hollow.  
A sleeping town, they did not know that lying in a manger low  
a Savior king who had no home has come to heal our sorrows.

Is there room in your heart? Is there room in your heart?  
Is there room in your heart for God to write His story?

Shepherds counting sheep at night. Do not fear the glory light.  
You are precious in His sight. God has come to raise the lowly.

Is there room in your heart? Is there room in your heart?  
Is there room in your heart for God to write His story?

You can come as you are. It may set you apart,  
when you make room in your heart and trade your dreams for His glory.  
Make room in your heart, make room in your heart.

A mother holds the promise tight. Every wrong will be made right,  
the road is straight, the burden's light, for in His hands He holds tomorrow

Is there room in your heart? Is there room in your heart?  
Is there room in your heart for God to write His story?

You can come as you are. It may set you apart,  
when you make room in your heart and trade your dreams for His glory.  
Make room in your heart, make room in your heart, make room in your heart.

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## Message

## “What Are You Waiting For? – A New Person”

## Offering

*Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.*



## The Advent Litany

**C** Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**P** O God the Father, who did so love the world, as to give Your only-begotten Son to save us,

**C** Have mercy upon us.

**P** O God the Son, who did once come in the likeness of sinful flesh to suffer for us, and will come again to be our Judge;

**C** Have mercy upon us.

**P** O God the Holy Spirit, who mercifully visits the souls of Your elect, to abide with us forever,

**C** Have mercy upon us.

**P** Holy Trinity, blessed forevermore,

**C** Be favorable to us and bless us.

**P** From the snares of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** From unrepentance, unbelief, and neglect of Your holy commandments,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** From all carelessness and forgetfulness of You,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** From Your wrath, whether in this world, or in the world to come,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** From a slumbering conscience and from an unprepared death,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** By the compassion, and longsuffering of God the Father,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** By Your first coming in lowliness,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** By Your Passion and most precious Death,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.

**P** By Your Intercession for us before the Father,

**C** Good Lord, deliver us.



- P** By Your Second Coming in Your glorious majesty,  
**C** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P** By the mercies and consolations of God the Holy Spirit,  
**C** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P** In our days of sorrow, weakness, and tribulation,  
**C** **Support and defend us, O Lord.**
- P** In our last sickness, and in the hour of death,  
**C** **Support and defend us, O Lord.**
- P** In Your awful Judgment, when the last sentence is pronounced,  
**C** **Deliver us, holy and merciful Savior.**
- P** That You would grant to us true repentance and a pure conscience,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That You would enable us to bear all our trials patiently, and to glorify You in our daily life,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That You would defend and govern Your holy Church, especially in this land,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That You would grant to all our brothers and sisters, especially those most dear to us, unity, peace, and true concord,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That You would grant to the afflicted and suffering in soul or body Your merciful aid and deliverance,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That You would continually exalt our minds to heavenly desires,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That we may be more and more perfected in the fruits of the Spirit, and more entirely conformed to Your most holy will,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** That being uncertain of the hour of our death, we may study to be watchful, and prepared to give an account of our stewardship,  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,  
**C** **Hear us, O Lord.**

**P** O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C Spare us, O Lord.**

**P** O Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,

**C Have mercy upon us.**

**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.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, for whose sudden coming to Judgment Your Church looks and waits, come now to us in Your quickening love, and plant Your holy fear and love within our hearts. Establish us in Your truth and righteousness, empower us with such boldness to confess You before men, that You may at the Last Day confess us before Your Father and all the elect angels in heaven, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

**C Amen.**

## **Blessing**

**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 Song**

## **“God So Loved”**

Come all you weary, Come all you thirsty.

Come to the well that never runs dry.

Drink of the water, Come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, Come find His mercy.

Come to the table; He will satisfy.

Taste of His goodness, Find what you're looking for.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.

Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, Bring your addictions.  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.  
Jesus is waiting there with open arms.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.  
The power of hell forever defeated.  
Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.  
For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him, praise Him For the wonders of His love.  
Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him, praise Him For the wonders of His love.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save.  
For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

The power of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.  
For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions.  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.  
Jesus is waiting, God so loved the world.

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