



## St. John Lutheran Church

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**5:00 pm — Mid Week Advent Service**



**December 10, 2025**

# *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 Joyfully  
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)

### **Prelude**

### **"Prepare The Way"**

Prepare the way of the Lord Prepare the way of the Lord

Prepare the way of the Lord Come and worship Him

Let His Kingdom in

Make straight in the desert A highway for God

Each mountain made low Each valley raised up

The Lord God Almighty Will never be stopped

His glory will be revealed

Jesus Christ is the Lord Jesus Christ is the Lord

Jesus Christ is the Lord Come and worship Him

Let His Kingdom in

Make straight in the desert A highway for God

Each mountain made low Each valley raised up

The Lord God Almighty Will never be stopped

His glory will be revealed

Come see the Lamb of God lifted high

Make room in your heart the King is alive

Come see the Lamb of God lifted high

Make room in your heart the King is alive

Make straight in the desert A highway for God

Each mountain made low Each valley raised up

The Lord God Almighty Will never be stopped

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His glory will be revealed

Prepare the way of the Lord Prepare the way of the Lord

Prepare the way of the Lord Come and worship Him

Prepare the way of the Lord

## 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.*

**P** Almighty God,

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

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

**L** Rejoice in the Lord always;

**C again I will say, Rejoice.**

**L** I will hope continually

**C and will praise you yet more and more.**

**L** My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

**C for their number is past my knowledge.**

**L** With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

**C I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

**L** O God, from my youth you have taught me,

**C and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

**L** So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**C until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.**

**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.**

**Lord, have mercy** (Sung)

*LSB 204*

**C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### Song of Praise

### “Holy Forever” (Christmas)

Held within a manger The Son of God arrived

The one who would be called Emmanuel

The promise was delivered Unto a virgin bride

The one who would be called Emmanuel

Your name is the highest Your name is the greatest

Your name stands above them all

All thrones and dominions All powers and positions

Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry holy All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high holy Holy forever

In the humble town of David A Savior born today  
The one who would be called Emmanuel  
Behold the host of heaven With holy roar proclaim  
The one who would be called Emmanuel  
The Messiah our God is with us now

And the angels cry holy All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high holy Holy forever

Hear Your people sing holy To the King of kings holy  
You will always be holy Holy forever

Your name is the highest Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all  
Jesus Your name is the highest Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry holy All creation cries holy  
You are lifted high holy Holy forever

You will always be holy Holy forever and ever  
You will always be holy You will always be holy holy holy  
You will always be Holy forever

Brian Johnson, Chris Davenport, Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7249209

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## Prayer of the Day

**L** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**L** Let us pray together...

**☞ 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.**

## **First Reading**

Exodus 3:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup> And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." <sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>5</sup> Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." <sup>6</sup> And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, <sup>8</sup> and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup> Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" <sup>12</sup> He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

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

**☞ Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia** (Sung)

LSB 205



## Gospel Reading

Luke 4:16-21

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

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

<sup>16</sup> And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

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

## Apostles' Creed

- ☐ 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.**

## Children's Message

### Message Hymn

### “Same God”

I'm calling on the God of Jacob Whose love endures through generations  
I know that You will keep Your covenant

I'm calling on the God of Moses The one who opened up the ocean  
I need you now to do the same thing for me

I'm calling on the God of Mary Whose favor rests upon the lowly  
I know with You all things are possible

I'm calling on the God of David Who made a shepherd boy courageous  
I may not face Goliath But I've got my own giants

Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now  
How I need You now

Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness  
You heard Your children then You hear Your children now  
You are the same God You are the same God

You answered prayers back then And You will answer now  
You are the same God You are the same God

You were providing then You are providing now  
You are the same God You are the same God



You moved in power then God move in power now  
You are the same God You are the same God  
You were a healer then You are a healer now  
You are the same God You are the same God  
  
You were a Savior then You are a Savior now  
You are the same God You are the same God

Oh God my God I need You Oh God my God I need You now  
How I need You now  
Oh Rock oh Rock of ages I'm standing on Your faithfulness  
You freed the captives then You're freeing hearts right now  
You are the same God You are the same God  
  
You touched the lepers then I feel Your touch right now  
You are the same God You are the same God

I'm calling on the Holy Spirit  
Almighty river come and fill me again  
Come and fill me again Come and fill me again

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## Message

## "God with Us in the Past"

## Offering

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



## Prayer of the Church

## Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- G** **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.**

## Blessing

**L** Let us bless the Lord

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

**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

### “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond’ring love.  
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv’n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav’n.  
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!

#### Acknowledgments

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