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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 1 – Page 151

Lutheran Service Book

The Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ Brings True Rejoicing, Even Under the Cross

Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ, and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see “the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful” (James 5:11). In the promise of the Gospel, therefore, “be patient” and “establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand” (James 5:7, 8). Like St. John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as “the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up,” so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also (Matt. 11:5). He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His Holy Church, so that “sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (Is. 35:10).

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

Stand

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

Invocation

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

Exhortation

LSB 151

- P** 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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit*Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4***P** Rejoice in the Lord always;**C** **again I will say, Rejoice.****P** I will hope continually**C** **and will praise you yet more and more.****P** My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,**C** **for their number is past my knowledge.****P** With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;**C** **I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.****P** O God, from my youth you have taught me,**C** **and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.****P** 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.****P** Rejoice in the Lord always;**C** **again I will say, Rejoice.****Salutation and Collect of the Day****P** The Lord be with you.**C** And al - so with you.**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C** A - men.*Sit*

Old Testament Reading*Isaiah 35:1–10*

- A** The Old Testament Reading for The Third Sunday in Advent is from the thirty-fifth chapter of the prophecy of Isaiah.

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,

but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
 and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
 they shall obtain gladness and joy,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

James 5:7–11

A The Second Reading is from the fifth chapter of the General Epistle of James.

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel*Matthew 11:2–15*

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



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Sermon Text: Matthew 11:2–15

Sermon Title: "Jesus, Are You The One?"

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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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.

Sit

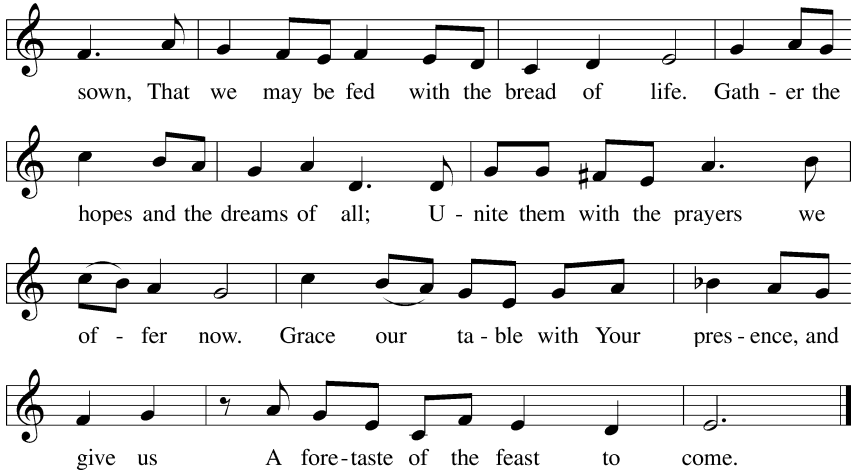
Gathering of Tithes & Offerings

If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate.

Stand

955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
 hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
 give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80

Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010

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Prayer of the Church

159

- P** . . . Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

160

- 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.

Proper Preface (Full)

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 161



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

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 163


P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

 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.

*Sit***Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood**

Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.

Silent Prayer before Communing: Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Silent Prayer after Communing: Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**343 Prepare the Royal Highway***Stand***The Communion Dismissal**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C **Amen.**

Thank the Lord*LSB 164*

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

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

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- 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.



349 Hark the Glad Sound

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Acknowledgments

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The Glad Spirit St. Paul & Lutheran Church

December 11, 2022

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Warren & Chris Van Mynen
Mary Viehweg, Family Catherine
Shirley Wahl
Bert & Judith Wilmington, Family Joy
Brian & Gloria Wiltjer, Family Melanie, Jenna

BIRTHDAYS

William Sommer, 12/16

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

Erik Schassburger, 12/13

CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Laurie Michels, 12/17

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Pray for Diane Akers, Janice Abel, Violet Andersen, Russ Budde, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Judy Diekleman, Sandy Ovale, Violet Rich, Lois Struven, Dolly Tegenhorst, Dorothy Van Mynen, Warren Van Mynen and Gene Wiltjer.

Serving in the Military – Austin Brandy, David Capodagli, James Fluechtling, Nathan Lopez, and Robert Wisely.

Serving as First Responders – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

NEWS UPDATE

To the glory of God and in loving memory of Ester Turner a memorial gift has been made to the General Fund by Janet Sanders.

Christmas Eve Service with President Buss is Saturday, December 24 at 6:00 pm. So make your plans accordingly. There will **NOT** be a service Christmas day, Sunday, December 25.



A Son Is Given

In *A Son Is Given*, we look at the promise of God to send His Messiah as fulfilled in Jesus. The Heavenly Father made good on His ancient pledge. In Jesus we have the love of God come to earth in the form of a Child, who is for us the Savior of the world.

Daily Devotions from LHM will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others. Have them delivered right to your inbox, podcast the audio devotional, access them on your mobile device through the FREE app, or listen with Spotify, iHeart Radio, Alexa, or Google Home. Visit <https://www.lhm.org/advent/>



There is a discussion group on Facebook about LHM's "A Son Is Given" Advent Devotions Beginning November 27. Each day's devotion will be posted to the group. You can make a comment or a thought for discussion on one of the posts. To search on Facebook the group is called Let's Discuss the Devotions or enter the following in your favorite browser www.facebook.com/groups/st.paul.discuss/



St. Paul Book Club will meet Wednesday January 11, to review *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. We usually meet at 10am on the second Wednesday of the month and always welcome new members. We also order lunch for after the meeting. Book Club is now in person and thru FB chat. Please let Deb know in advance so she can link you in.

Christ For You this week on KFUE.org: Hear the history and theology of Advent Hymnody on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Exodus 23-27 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear Advent midweek worship from Village Lutheran Church in Ladue, MO, on

12/14 at 12:00 p.m. CT. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

Unanswered Bible Questions... Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org; Facebook: facebook.com/issuesetc; or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

“As sure as Christmas will come again on December 25, our Lord will come again. As we look forward to the Last Day, let’s dress for the occasion, putting on godliness and repentance. Let’s celebrate everything He did the first time He came to assure us of our home of righteousness. Let’s be spiritually awake and alert for His coming again, knowing that we will enjoy God’s perfect paradise, our eternal home.” Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

[According to the last two commandments,] no one should consider or intend to get what belongs to another, such as his wife, servants, house and estate, land, meadows, cattle. He should not take them even with a show of right, by a trick, or to his neighbor's harm. . . . Here it is also forbidden for you to alienate anything from your neighbor, even though you could do so with honor in the eyes of the world, so that no one could accuse or blame you as though you had gotten it wrongfully.

—Large Catechism I 296



God's People In Action

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

December 4th Attendance 27, 25 Communed, 7 Online

Basket	\$21.00	Weekly Missions	\$20.00
Envelopes	1,204.00	Luth. Church Charity	10.00
		Church Maint	60.00
		Social Ministry	300.00
Budgeted Total	1,225.00	Non-budgeted Total	\$390.00
Offering Needed	1,640.00		
Short	\$-415.00		



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee &...
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Pot-luck Dinner
	7:00 pm	Advent Worship Service.
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service
	9:45 am	Coffee &...
	10:00 am	Council Meeting

SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Dec 11, 8:45 AM	Sun, Dec 18, 8:45 AM
Pastor	Pastor Fluechtling	Pastor Dobberstein
Usher	Louis Sella	Bill Sommer
		Norma Allen
Lay Reader	Melanie Wiltjer	Tracy Middleton

DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND