CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





Rev. George Fields, Pastor Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages: 9:00 a.m. 4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055 www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT + December 4, 2022 +

"Who Warned You?"



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew. Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex. We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

WELCOME:

"Those who for a long time were called God's children are now by reason of their faults called a brood of vipers, because by doing the will of the devil, who from the beginning was called a snake, they made themselves the devil's children."

-Chromatius, Tractate on Matthew

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE I

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

OPENING HYMN

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry #344

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

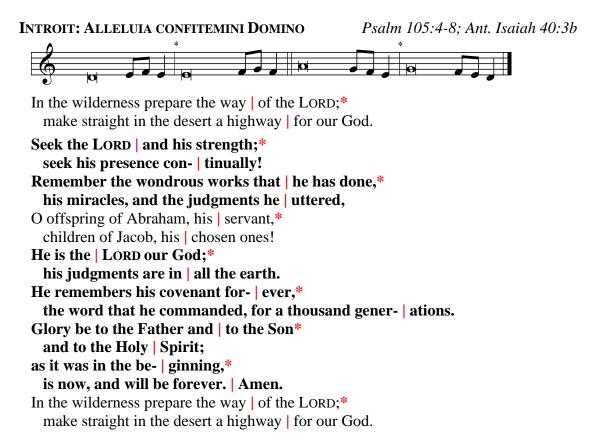
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

- **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.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and 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 + the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD





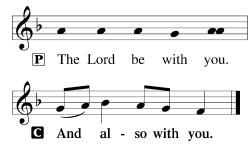
Mark 10:47





During Advent, which is a season of preparation and repentance, we omit the Gloria in Excelsis.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

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.



Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT

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.

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

GRADUAL



Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.* Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem. Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;* righteous and having sal- | vation. Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.* From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26

EPISTLE

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. 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA 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

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



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.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

#345

The Brood of Vipers

SERMON

Please stand

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4) the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3) maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1: Jn 1:1) and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16) And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9) the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16) begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2) God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1) very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2) being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30) by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3) who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23) came down from heaven (Jn 6:41: Lk 15:20) and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35) and was made man; (Jn 1:14) and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25: Jn 19:16-18) He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53) And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4: Lk 24:6) and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9) and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55) And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64) to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12) whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11) And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38) the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6) who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26) who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17) who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5) And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22) I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5) and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18) and the life + of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42) Amen. (Ps 106:48)

Us men means all people. Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord. **People: Lord, have mercy.**

For comfort, health and recovery: Wayne Bagley, Karen Draffen, Greg Goldman, Robin Kilchrist, John Law, Cathy McDonald, Danny Prince, Lesley Thomas, Cynthia Widlitze, Terry Zeigler;

For those who are ill or distressed: Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Richard Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Bobby Carroll, Arthur Collins, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Michele Rae (Cookston) Fowler, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Jerry McMahan, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Johnnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Sara Fields, Will Nelson;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;

For foreign missionaries: especially those serving in Spain;

This week's prayer family: Michael & Layné Martin and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

▶ 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:



 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

SANCTUS

Matthew 6:9-13

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

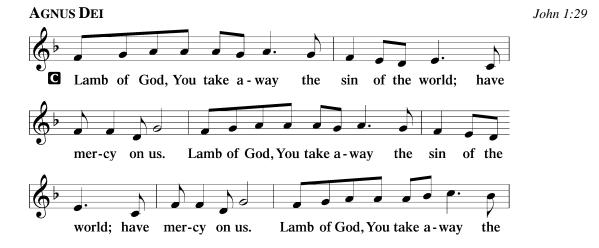
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ∔ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

 \mathbf{P} The peace \mathbf{H} of the Lord be with you always.





John 20:19

Matthew 26:26-28

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Please be seated

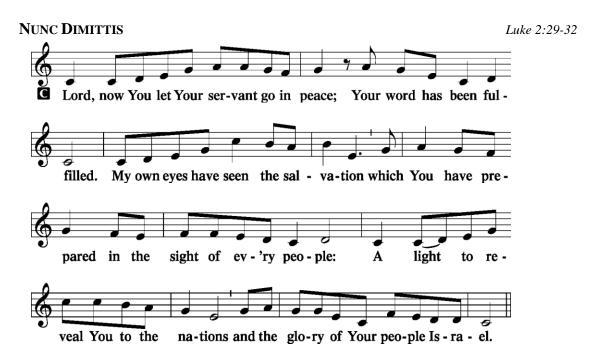
DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

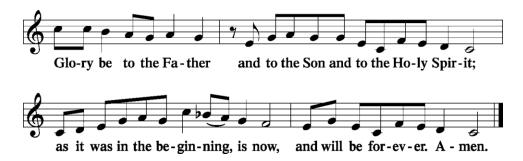
All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

When All the World Was Cursed	#346
Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come	#350
Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray	#623

Please stand following distribution of communion





POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

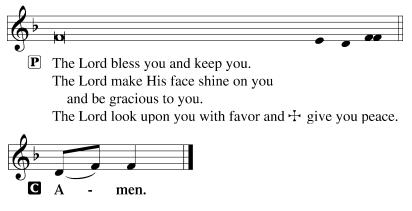
A Let us pray.

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 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

Numbers 6:24–26



CLOSING HYMN

To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All

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Serving Today: Celebrant: Rev. George Fields Acolyte: Emma Agent Interpreter: Cathy Brown

Elder: Gary Atchley Organist: Sister Sara Fields Altar Guild: Sabrina Goodlett

Voters Meeting: This morning we will meet directly after the Divine Service for the December Voters Meeting. Thank you for your faithful attendance to this task!

A Very Merry Koinonia Christmas! Don your Santa hats and join us next Sunday at the Held Home for our annual Koinoia Christmas! Food, festivity, and a round of Unsanctified Santa await!

Choir Rehearsal Rescheduled: Our Christmas choir is now meeting on **Wednesday** nights directly after the Advent Evensong. See you there!

Christmas Poinsettias: You can help provide the beautiful plants to be displayed in our sanctuary on Christmas Day! The cost is \$18 per plant. After the service, you may take home the number of plants you purchased. Sign up at the table in the narthex!

Thank you! To all who helped with the work day yesterday – even amidst the , thank you! The grounds look great!

Decoration Day: Untangle the Christmas lights and unwrap the christmons—it's almost time to put up a tree! Join us at **8:30 a.m. this Saturday, December 10th**, for our annual Advent Decoration Day. There will be coffee, there will be cookies, and there will be lots of Christm-I mean, *Advent* cheer!

Advent Vespers: Join us as we meditate upon the Advent of our Lord this coming season. Vespers will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights throughout December until Christmas. Pray with us and ponder the coming of our Lord and the mystery of His Incarnation.

Advent Dinners: Join us for our soup-salad-sandwich suppers at six! Throughout Advent, we will dine together at 6:00 p.m. before the Wednesday evening services. To contribute food, sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Come for food and fellowship during this season of great anticipation as we prepare for the Advent of our King!

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols: We will hold vigil for the birth of our Lord on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th. Join us at 6:00 p.m. to meditate upon this most holy miracle!

Christmas Day Divine Service: Celebrate the Holy Nativity with us as we greet our Incarnate Lord on Christmas Day (10:30 a.m.)! See Him present among us upon the altar and partake of Him in Holy Communion.

CLC Christmas Recital: Calling all musicians! It is time to start practicing up, because the Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming on **Saturday, January 7**! If you are interested in participating, email Sister Sara at sistersara@christlutheranjacksonms.org. All ages and levels are welcome!

Readings for next Sunday, December 11th, the Third Sunday of Advent: Introit Ps. 71:14-18; Psalm 146; Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-11; Matthew 11:2-15.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: December 5 – December 11

Monday	6:15 p.m.	Elders Meeting
Wednesday	7 6:00 p.m.	Advent Supper
-		Advent Vespers
	8:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	6:30 a.m.	Bible & Breaky
Saturday	8:30 a.m.	Decoration Day
	9:00 a.m.	Decoration Day: Kids Edition
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service – The Third Sunday in Advent
	5:00 p.m.	Koinonia Christmas



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