

# 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](http://www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org)**

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+ December 18, 2022 +

*“And Called His Name Jesus”*



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 worshipping with us today!*

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

## **WELCOME:**

“Joseph is the head of the Holy Family, father of the holy trinity on earth which  
resembles so closely the Holy Trinity on high.”

—St. Peter Eymard

“I know not how anyone can ponder on the sufferings, trials, and tribulations the  
Queen of Angels endured whilst caring for Jesus in his childhood, without at the same  
time thanking St. Joseph for the services he rendered the Divine Child and his Blessed  
Mother.”

—St. Teresa of Avila

# 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 Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, 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 meal<sup>3</sup>. 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 faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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

<sup>2</sup>Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>3</sup>1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>4</sup>1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# DIVINE SERVICE I

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

*The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.*

## OPENING HYMN

**Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**

**#347**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

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

**P** 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

## INTROIT: DE PROFUNDIS

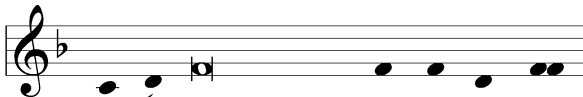
*Psalm 130:5-8; Ant. Isaiah 64:1*



Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,\*  
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.  
I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,\*  
and in his | word I hope;  
my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,\*  
more than watchmen for the | morning.  
O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,\*  
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.  
And he will redeem | Israel\*  
from all his in- | iquities.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,\*  
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

## KYRIE

*Mark 10:47*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



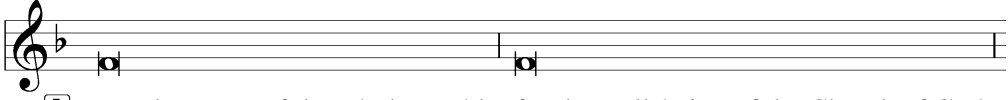
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



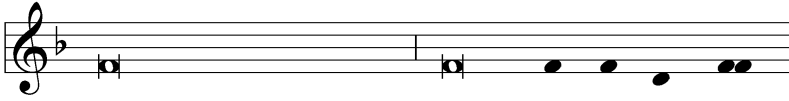
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



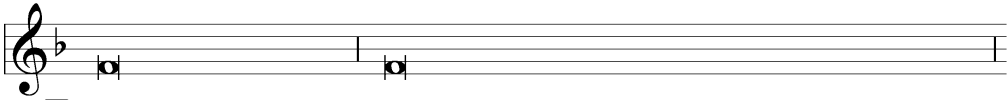
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



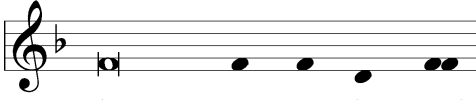
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



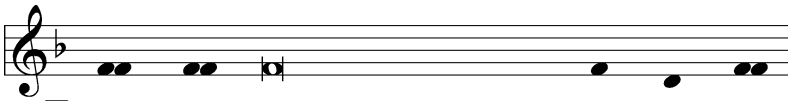
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

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

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Please be seated*

## OLD TESTAMENT

*Isaiah 7:10-17*

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26*



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.

## EPISTLE

*Romans 1:1-7*

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

## ALLELUIA



**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 1:18-25*

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

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



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

*Please be seated*

**OFFICE HYMN**

**O Sing of Christ**

**#362**

**SERMON**

*Father and the Son*

*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  $\uparrow$  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:* **Allison Agent, Richard Bradley, Michele (Cookston) Fowler, Greg Goldman, Carol Jacobson, Ryan Koher, Cathy McDonald, John Mosley, Don Ochs, Dianne Sutrick, Larry Taylor, Dave Teal, Lesley Thomas, 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:* **Christopher Martin** and his loved ones.

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERING**

*Please stand*

OFFERTORY

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

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



**P** The Lord be with you.



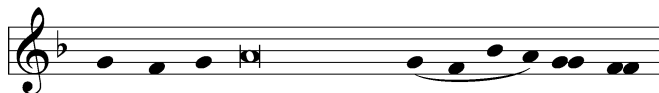
**C** And al - so with you.



**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.

**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

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**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.

**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

*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**

*Matthew 26:26–28*

**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**

*John 20:19*

**P** The peace ✠ of the Lord be with you always.



A - men.

**AGNUS DEI**

*John 1:29*



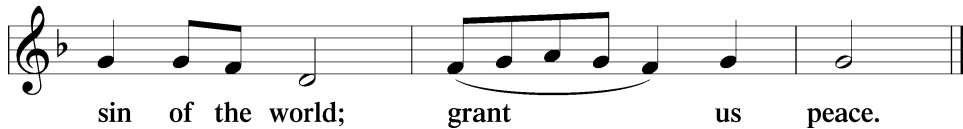
Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



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



*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**

**O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is  
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness**

**#372  
#636**

*Please stand following distribution of communion*

### **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*Luke 2:29-32*

**Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-**  
**filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-**  
**pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -**  
**veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.**





Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray.

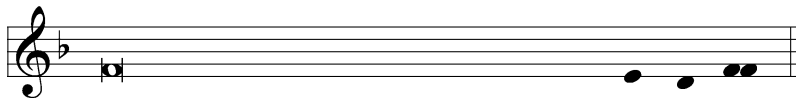
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and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



**C** A - men.

### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24–26*



**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** A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

**O Bride of Christ, Rejoice**

**#334**

**Acknowledgments**

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**Serving Today:****Celebrant:** Rev. George Fields**Acolyte:** Miles Agent**Interpreter:** Denee Smith**Elder:** Gary Atchley**Organist:** Sister Sara Fields**Altar Guild:** Barbara Glenn & Nancy Teal

**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!

**Advent Vespers:** Join us as we meditate upon the Advent of our Lord this coming season. Our fourth and last vespers will be held at 7:00 p.m. this Wednesday. 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! Our last Advent dinner will be held this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. 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 24<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:sistersara@christlutheranjacksonms.org). All ages and levels are welcome!

**Readings for next Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord:**  
Introit Ps. 98:1-4; Psalm 2; Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-14.

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*This week at Christ Lutheran Church: December 19 – December 25*

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	Advent Supper
	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>	Advent Vespers
	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	Bible & Breaky
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	Refreshments
	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Service – The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord</b>



**Issues, Etc.**<sup>™</sup>

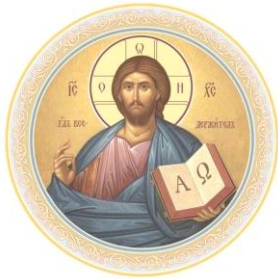
*Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio*

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