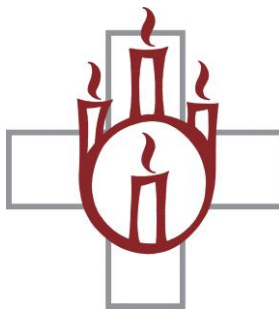


# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST VESPERS IN ADVENT

# FIRST VESPERS IN ADVENT

+ December 6, 2023 +



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

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

## WELCOME:

"Just as God in the beginning of creation made the world out of nothing, whence He is called the Creator and the Almighty, so His manner of working continues unchanged. Even now and to the end of the world, all His works are such that out of what is nothing, worthless despised, wretched, and dead, He makes that which is something, precious, honorable, blessed, and living [...] Therefore His eyes look only into the depths, not to the heights; as it is said in Daniel 3:55: "Thou sittest upon the cherubim and beholdest the depths"; in Psalm 138:6: "Though the Lord is high, He regards the lowly; but the haughty He knows from far." Psalm 113:5: "Who is like the Lord, our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down upon the heavens and the earth?" For since He is the Most High, and there is nothing above Him, He cannot look above Him; nor yet to either side, for there is none like Him. He must needs, therefore, look within Him and beneath Him; and the farther one is beneath Him, the better does He see him."

— Blessed Dr. Martin Luther, 'The Magnificat'

# VESPERS

*The congregation may enter in silence for meditation and prayer.  
Please stand as the bell is rung.*

## OPENING VERSICLES

p. 229

## PSALM: BENEDICAM DOMINUM

*Psalm 34:1–3; antiphon: Isaiah 62:11b*



Say to the daughter of | Zion,\*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

**I will bless the LORD at | all times;\***

his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

**My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;\***

let the humble hear | and be glad.

Oh, magnify the | LORD with me,\*

and let us exalt his name to- | gether!

**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.

Say to the daughter of | Zion,\*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

*Please be seated*

## FIRST READING

*Deuteronomy 7:6-11*

**[L]** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**[C]** Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

*Luke 1:26-38; 46-55*

**[L]** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**[C]** Thanks be to God.

<b>ADVENT RESPONSORY</b>		<i>p. 230</i>
<b>OFFICE HYMN</b>	<b>Savior of the Nations, Come</b>	<b>#332</b>
<b>MEDITATION</b>	<i>He Has Exalted the Lowly</i>	
	<i>Please stand</i>	
<b>MAGNIFICAT</b>		<i>p. 231</i>
<b>KYRIE</b>		<i>p. 233</i>
<b>LORD’S PRAYER</b>		<i>p. 233</i>
<b>COLLECTS</b>		<i>p. 233</i>
<b>BENEDICAMUS</b>		<i>p. 234</i>
<b>BENEDICTION</b>		<i>p. 234</i>
<b>CLOSING HYMN</b>	<b>The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came</b>	<b>#356</b>

**Acknowledgments**

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**Serving Tonight**

**Pastor:** Rev. George Fields

**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields

**Interpreter:** Denee Smith