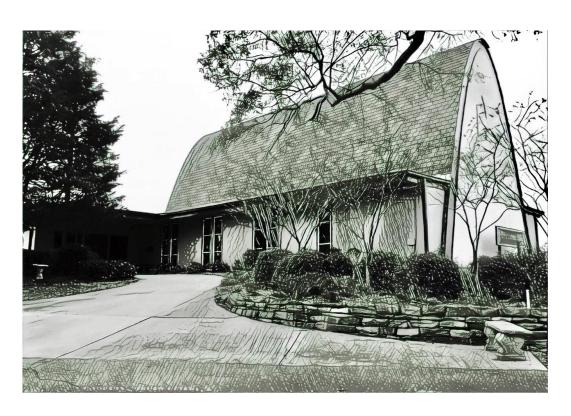
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





Rev. George N. Fields, Pastor

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 IN ADVENT + December 3, 2021 +

"The Voice of One Crying in the Wilderness"



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:

"And why should I say more? By means of John's baptism the human being was being purified for repentance, but not advanced to grace. But, by contrast, Christ's baptism regenerates, transforms, and makes a new person out of the old one so effectively that there is no knowledge of the past nor any memory of the things of old in the one who out of his earthly condition has been made heavenly, and already possesses heavenly and divine blessings."

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.

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

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

³ 1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴ 1 Corinthians 10:17: 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE I

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.

OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

#343

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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: EXSULTATE DEO

Psalm 81:8, 10-11, 13; Ant. Luke 3:4b



The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:*

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Hear, O my people, while I ad- | monish you!*
O Israel, if you would but lis- | ten to me!

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of | Egypt.* Open your mouth wide, and I will | fill it.

But my people did not listen | to my voice;*
Israel would not sub- | mit to me.

Oh, that my people would lis- ten to me,* that Israel would walk in my ways!

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.

The voice of one crying in the | wilderness:*

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his | paths straight."

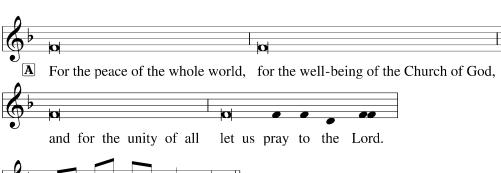
KYRIE Mark 10:47



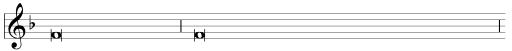


A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.





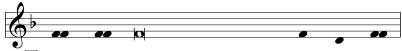




A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise





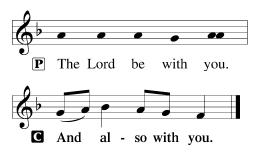


A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.



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

Malachi 3:1-7b

"Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'

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

GRADUAL Zech. 9:9; Ps. 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 Philippians 1:2-11

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

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

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

Please stand

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 3:1-14

P The Holy

→ Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.""

He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin 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."

And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

#348

SERMON

He Is Coming

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 Holv 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: Gary Atchley, Richard Brownstein, Tom Cantrell, Charles Dempsey, Marie Ferderer & Child, Faye Hartman, Nancy Jones, Roger Lindsey, James Lowe, Kathy Rothblum, Lily Smith, Sherri Smith, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas, Joan Wilson;

For those who are ill or distressed: Jenalee Adams, Blair Alford, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Tahlia Ferderer, George Fields, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim Hansen, Faye Hartman, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Sara Fields;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, Glen Hansford, Holden Hathcock, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum;

For foreign missionaries

This week's prayer family: Barbara Glenn and her loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

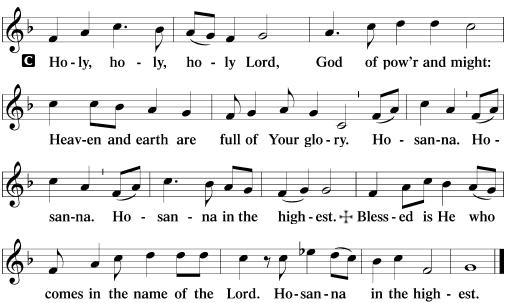
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift your hearts. up We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It

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



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:
- 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 \(\frac{1}{2} \) 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."

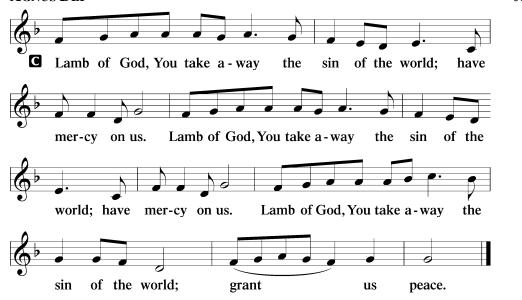
PAX DOMINI John 20:19

P The peace

→ of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI John 1:29



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 Lord How Shall I Meet You	#334
When All the World Was Cursed	#346
Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding	#345

Please stand following distribution of communion





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.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICTIONNumbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.



CLOSING HYMN

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

#344

Acknowledgments

Serving Today:

Celebrant: Rev. George FieldsElder: Keith MartinAcolyte: Nathan HansfordOrganist: Sr. Sara FieldsInterpreter: Denee SmithCantor: Keith Martin

Altar Guild: Michelle Miller

Altar Flowers: This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by Bill Cookston in memory of his daughter Michele Fowler.

Voters Meeting: Mark your calendar for **next Sunday, December 15**th, as we will meet to approve the 2025 Work Plan. The meeting will follow the Divine Service.

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

Advent Suppers: Advent is a season of fasting and preparation, but even fasting Christians must eat once in a while! Join us for Advent suppers each Wednesday (6:00 p.m.) throughout the season as we await the Feast of Christmas! If you would like to contribute, see the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Decoration Day: Untangle the Christmas lights and unwrap the chrismons—it's almost time to put up a tree! If sweating outdoors at the work day isn't your thing, join us *indoors* at **8:00 a.m. this Saturday, December 14**th, 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!

Christmas Poinsettias: You can help provide the beautiful plants to be displayed in our sanctuary on Christmas Day! The cost is \$10 per plant. After the service, you may take home the number of plants you purchased. Sign up at the table in the narthex!

A Very Merry Communio Christmas! It may be Advent, but Communio Christmas is almost here! Don your Santa hats and join us **next Sunday** at Jim and Dana Taquino's home (Merina Hansen's daughter) for our annual Communio Christmas. Email sistersara@christlutheranjacksonms.org for more details, and kindly RSVP to Merina Hansen. Food, festivity, and a round of Unsanctified Santa await!

CLC Christmas Recital: Calling all musicians! It is time to start practicing up, because the Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming on **Saturday, January 4**! If you are interested in participating, email Sister Sara at sistersara@christlutheranjacksonms.org. Additionally, if your piece requires accompaniment, please have music to Sister Sara by Sunday, December 15. All ages and levels are welcome!

Caroling: Spread the season's cheer with us on Sunday, December 22nd, as we sing good tidings of great joy! We will meet at Madison Home Place (7521 Old Canton Rd., Madison) at 6:00 p.m. Caroling books will be provided – just warm up your pipes and bring a friend!

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols: We will hold vigil for the birth of our Lord on Christmas Eve, Monday, 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.

Readings for next Sunday, December 8th, the Second Sunday in Advent: Introit Ps. 81:8-13; Psalm 66:1-12; Malachi 3:1-7; Philippians 1:2-11; Luke 3:1-14.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: December 9 – December 15

Monday **6:15 p.m.** Elders Meeting **6:15 p.m.** Council Meeting Tuesday Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Advent Supper 7:00 p.m. Advent II Vespers 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal **Friday**

6:30 a.m. Bible & Breaky @ Broadstreet

Saturday 8:00 a.m. Decoration Day

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages Sunday

10:30 a.m. Divine Service - The Third Sunday in Advent



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