

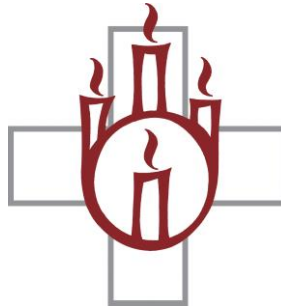


**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
THIRD VESPERS IN ADVENT

# THIRD VESPERS IN ADVENT

+ December 18, 2024 +

## *The Kingdom of Heaven*



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:**

“God, who is powerful in all things, has been seen through the Spirit of prophesy; He has been seen adoptively through His Son; He will also be seen paternally in the kingdom of heaven, as the Spirit prepares one for the Son of God, as the Son leads him to the Father, and as the Father makes him incorruptible in eternal life, which happens to each from the fact that he sees God. For just as those who see the light are within the light and receive its splendor, so also those who see God are within God and perceive His splendor.”

—St. Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*

*Please stand as the bell is rung.*

**OPENING VERSICLES**

*p. 229*

**PSALM**

*Psalm 30*



I will extol you, O Lord, for you have | drawn me up\*  
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

O Lord my God, I cried to | you for help,\*  
and you have | healed me.

**O Lord, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;\*  
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.  
Sing praises to the Lord, O | you his saints,\*  
and give thanks to his | holy name.**

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.\*  
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.  
As for me, I said in my pros- | perity,\*  
“I shall nev- | er be moved.”

**By your favor, O Lord, you made my mountain | stand strong;\*  
you hid your face; I | was dismayed.  
To you, O | Lord, I cry,\*  
and to the Lord I plead for | mercy:**

“What profit is there in my death, if I go down | to the pit?\*

Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your | faithfulness?  
Hear, O Lord, and be merci- | ful to me!\*

O Lord, be my | helper!”

**You have turned for me my mourning into | dancing;\*  
you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with | gladness,  
that my glory may sing your praise and not be | silent.\*  
O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for- | ever!**

**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.**

*Please be seated*

**FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 45:8, 15-19*

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

**SECOND READING**

*Colossians 1:15-23*

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

**ADVENT RESPONSORY**

*p. 230*

**OFFICE HYMN**

**O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide**

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**MEDITATION**

*Paradise*

*Please stand*

**MAGNIFICAT**

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**KYRIE**

*p. 233*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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**COLLECTS**

*p. 233*

**BENEDICAMUS**

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**BENEDICTION**

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**CLOSING HYMN**

**O Lord, How Shall I Meet You**

**#334**

**Acknowledgments**

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