



St. John Lutheran Church

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December 11, 2024

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

May God bless your worship with us today,
Paul Kruse, Pastor

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Mobile: 989-992-6030

*Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live,
Learn, Share, and Serve'*

5:00 pm - Advent

Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they may be'

Prelude

Opening Song

Sharing of the Peace and Welcome

"Hark the Glad Sound" LSB 349

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51 Text: Public domain

Invocation

LSB 203

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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

P O Lord, open my lips,

C And my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C Make haste to help me, O Lord.

- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.**

Psalm

- P** O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
- C** **You have set your glory above the heavens.**
- P** Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have established strength because of your foes
- C** **To still the enemy and the avenger.**
- P** When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
- C** **The moon and the stars, which you have set in place,**
- P** What is man that you are mindful of him,
- C** **And the son of man that you care for him?**
- P** Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
- C** **And crowned him with glory and honor.**
- P** You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
- C** **You have put all things under his feet,**
- P** All sheep and oxen,
- C** **And also the beasts of the field,**
- P** The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
- C** **Whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**
- P** O LORD, our Lord,
- C** **How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Reading

Genesis 12:1-9

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the

land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

1 Peter 2:4-10

⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," ⁸and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Matthew 12:46-50

⁴⁶While he was still speaking to the people, behold, his mother and his brothers stood outside, asking to speak to him. ⁴⁸But he replied to the man who told him, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?" ⁴⁹And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ⁵⁰For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

LSB 230

P Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.

C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.

C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C **Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.**

Message Song

"The Church's One Foundation" *LSB 644*

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses
With ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt. Text: Public domain

Message

“Tangible Community”

P Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

C: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;

Men: For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.

Women: For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

C: For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;

P: And His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.

C: He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

Women: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

Men: He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

P: He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Prayer

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Blessing

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Closing Song

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come” *LSB 350*

Come, Thou precious Ransom, come,
Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world!
Open are to Thee all portals.

Come, Thy beauty let us see;
Anxiously we wait for Thee.

Enter now my waiting heart,
Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart,
Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine
When Thou art my guest divine!

My hosannas and my palms
Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can,
Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace,
Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

Hail! Hosanna, David's Son!
Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown,
Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing:
Hail! Hosanna to our King.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711

Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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