

Luther Memorial Church & School

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As We Gather

Today you are in a most important waiting room—every church sanctuary or other holy space in which God's people gather is, in its way, a waiting room. Together we are waiting for the greatest of all events— the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the mountain of the house of the Lord, where two or three are gathered in His name. Here God dwells and is enthroned and reveals Himself to His people. Here we keep alert, joyfully anticipating the advent of our King.

[Today's hymns are printed on pages 10-13 of the bulletin.]

✤ Preparation for Worship ✤

TLH 68 – The Advent of Our King

Invocation

Hymn

Matthew 28:19b

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences Psalm 25:1-2a, 4–5, 21; Proverbs 3:5-6

- To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame.
- **C** Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.
- **P** Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.
- **C** May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You.
- **P** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
- **C** In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

Confession and Absolution

- ▶ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
- **C** Amen.

▶ Confident of receiving God's great mercy, let us confess together that we by nature are sinful and that through our thoughts, words, and deeds we have sinned against our God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

- C Almighty God, we repent of our sins and ask for Your forgiving grace in our lives. Be merciful to us and for the sake of Jesus grant us remission of our sins so that, as Your redeemed people, we may greet you in Advent hope and with trusting hearts serve You in time and in eternity.
- In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

╋ Service of the Word ₱

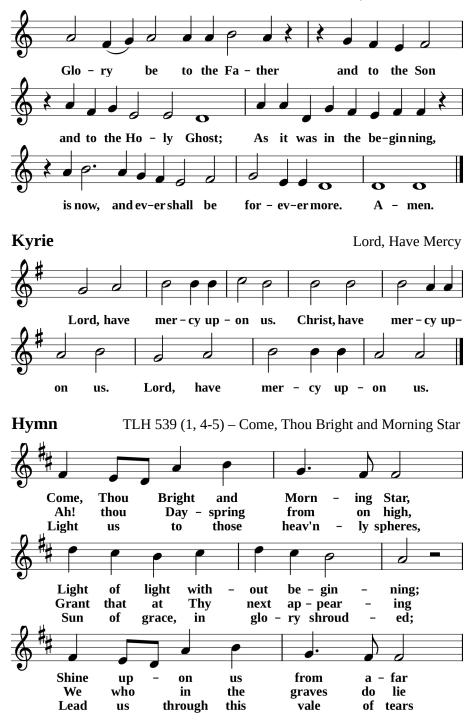
Psalm of the Day

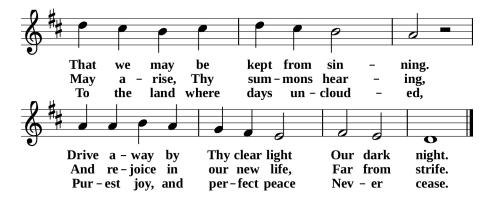
Psalm 122

- **P** I was glad when they said to me,
- **C** "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"
- **P** Our feet have been standing
- **C** within your gates, O Jerusalem!
- **P** Jerusalem—built as a city
- **C** that is bound firmly together,
- to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel,
- **C** to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
- **P** There thrones for judgment were set,
- **C** the thrones of the house of David.
- **P** Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
- **C** "May they be secure who love you!
- **P** Peace be within your walls
- **C** and security within your towers!"
- **P** For my brothers and companions' sake
- **C** I will say, "Peace be within you!"
- **P** For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
- **C** I will seek your good.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father





Salutation

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Epistle Reading

Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel Reading

³⁶ "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷ For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴² Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

TLH 95 – Savior of the Nations, Come

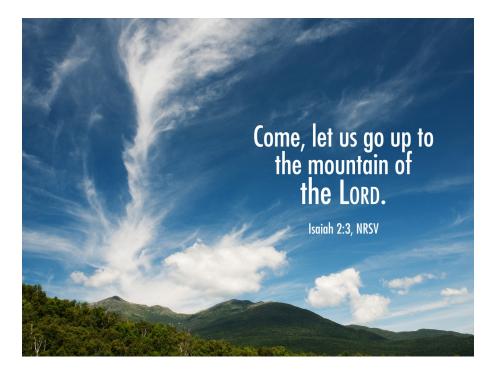
Sermon Text

¹ The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³ and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.



See the Mountain of the Lord

I. The Highest Mountain There Is II. The Most Peaceful Mountain There Is



Offertory



Hymn

TLH 74 – One He Came in Blessing

Offering Hymn

TLH 442 st. 2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee Gladly, freely, of Thine own; With the sunshine of Thy goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by Thee, at length believe That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

General Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- **C** Amen.

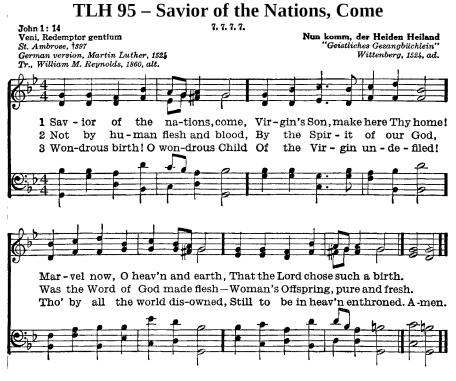
Hymn

TLH 73 – Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

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Let sin's dark deeds be done The old man all be put away, The new man all put on. All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free, With Father, Spirit, ever One, Through all eternity.



- 4 From the Father forth He came And returneth to the same, Captive leading death and hell— High the song of triumph swell!
- 5 Thou, the Father's only Son, Hast o'er sin the victory won. Boundless shall Thy kingdom be; When shall we its glories see?
- 6 Brightly doth Thy manger shine, Glorious is its light divine.
 Let not sin o'ercloud this light;
 Ever be our faith thus bright.
- 7 Praise to God the Father sing, Praise to God the Son, our King, Praise to God the Spirit be Ever and eternally.





- 2 A Helper just He comes to thee, His chariot is humility, His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.
 The end of all our woe He brings; Wherefore the earth is glad and sings: We praise Thee, Savior, now, Mighty in deed art Thou!
 - 4 Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart From earthly use for Heaven's employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your Sovereign enter in And new and nobler life begin. To Thee, O God, be praise For word and deed and grace!
- 3 O blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the Ruler is confessed! O happy hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes! The cloudless Sun of joy He is, Who bringeth pure delight and bliss. We praise Thee, Spirit, now, Our Comforter art Thou!
- 5 Redeemer, come! I open wide My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide! Let me Thine inner presence feel, Thy grace and love in me reveal; Thy Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won. Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

╋ Announcements ♣

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in our Savior's name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will come back and join us again. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns that our Scripture-based liturgy offers. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please ask Pastor Sauers.

Upcoming Schee	dule – Online	Calendar @ FDLlutheran.com/calendar
November 27	9:00 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
November 29	6:30 pm	Elders
November 30	6:30 pm	Midweek Advent Worship Service
December 1	10:00 am	Bible Class
December 4	9:00 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Fellowship Hour
December 6	6:30 pm	School Committee
December 7	6:30 pm	Midweek Advent Worship Service
December 8	10:00 am	Bible Class
December 9	6:30 pm	Fellowship Gathering
December 11	9:00 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:00 am	Worship Service
	3:30 pm	Advent by Candlelight

Advent by Candlelight: Ladies, join us for this beautiful afternoon of fellowship on Sunday, December 11th at 3:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Come, relax, and set aside all the worries of the Christmas season as we focus our hearts on Christ. Please RSVP at www.FdLLutheran.com/advent or sign-up on the bulletin board. Questions? Contact Kate Sauers at 314-540-8781. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board to help with bringing food, decorating a table, or reading during the program. Let us know how you can help. Thank you!

Christmas Poinsettias: Haentze Floral is offering a special discount on poinsettias to churches. The plants will be used to decorate our church for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and you will be able to take them home after the Christmas Day service. The cost for a 5-6 bloom plant is \$15.99 and for an 8-10 bloom plant is \$27.99. Please sign up on the bulletin board

of contact Barb Haensgen at <u>rbhaensgen@gmail.com</u>. Orders must be placed by today.

Snow Removal: There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help out with snow removal this year. Please consider signing up if you are able to help. We bought a new snow blower last year that certainly helps to make the work a lot easier.

Midweek Advent Worship: Our Midweek Advent Worship series this year is entitled *This is My Son*. Just as God's people of old waited with faith in the coming Messiah, so is our Advent anticipation of Christmas. Our hopes and fears are real. They can distract us from God's promises. God's promise was from the beginning spoken to Adam and Eve. Salvation would come through the woman's offspring (Genesis 3:15). But it would not be Cain, the son of Adam, nor Ishmael, the son of Abraham, nor Absalom, the son of David. The true Son of Adam and Abraham and David is the Son of God. Our attention and faith thus direct our hopes and fears to God's Son, in whom we receive adoption as sons and daughters in the family of God.

Services will be at 6:30 pm. We will be participating in a pulpit exchange this year. Here is the schedule of services:

- November 30 Jesus, The True Son Pastor Matt Ude
- **December 7** Absalom, The Son of David Pastor David Ude
- December 14 Ishmael, The Son of Abraham Pastor Mark Tiefel
- **December 21** Cain, The Son of Adam Pastor Sauers

2023 CLC Mission Helper Trip: Applications are being accepted for the 2023 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip so please apply early. Find more information at: https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/

CLC Call News: Pastor Bruce Naumann of Messiah Lutheran, Eau Claire, WI, is still considering the call to to serve as the CLC's Third Foreign Missionary. + Pastor Rob Sauers of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI, is still considering the call to Immanuel Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL. + Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN, has returned the dual call to serve Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA and Ascension Lutheran, Tacoma, WA.



