

**✘ The Second Sunday of Advent ✘**  
**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**December 3, & 4, 2022**

**WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME**

WELCOME to our guests and members as we gather for worship today! **Please place your names in our red "Record of Fellowship" books.** Also, please give attention to the written "News and Notes".

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**WORSHIP NOTES**

"John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 'Repent!' (Matt. 3:1-2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John's work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, "a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots" (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is "a signal for the peoples" (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. "With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips" (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the "root of Jesse" comes to us, "even he who arises to rule the Gentiles" (Rom. 15:12), that "we might have hope" and be filled "with all joy and peace in believing" (Rom. 15:4, 13).

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**343 Prepare the Royal Highway**

- 1 Prepare the royal highway;  
The King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley  
A level road appear!

Then greet the King of Glory  
Foretold in sacred story: Refrain

- ref Hosanna to the Lord,  
For He fulfills God's Word!
- 2 God's people, see Him coming:  
Your own eternal king!  
Palm branches strew before Him!  
Spread garments! Shout and sing!  
God's promise will not fail you!  
No more shall doubt assail you! Refrain
- 3 Then fling the gates wide open  
To greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation  
Its tribute too should bring.  
All lands, bow down before Him!  
All nations, now adore Him! Refrain
- 4 His is no earthly kingdom;  
It comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom  
And justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding  
For kindness so abounding: Refrain

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*Stand*

*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** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and  
confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in  
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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 ✠**

**Introit**

- P In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
C **Seek the LORD and his strength;  
seek his presence continually!**
- P Remember the wondrous works that he has done,  
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,  
C **O offspring of Abraham, his servant,  
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**
- P He is the LORD our God;  
his judgments are in all the earth.  
C **He remembers his covenant forever,  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand  
generations.**
- ALL **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.**

**ALL** In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Kyrie

LSB 186

**C** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**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.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 11:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's  
den.

<sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for  
the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting  
place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Anthem – Adult Choir (8:00am)**

#### **Epistle**

*Romans 15:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>Whatever was written in former days was written for our  
instruction, that through endurance and through the  
encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the  
God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such  
harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that  
together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of  
our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as  
Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised  
to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises  
given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might  
glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him.”

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*

- C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 3:1–12*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

- C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

<sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume 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. <sup>10</sup>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.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.**

*Sit*

### **344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within,  
And let us all our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without Thy grace we waste away  
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Lay on the sick Thy healing hand  
And make the fallen strong to stand;  
Show us the glory of Thy face  
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

Stand

5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee  
Whose advent sets Thy people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Spirit evermore.

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## Sermon

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

### ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

#### Preface

*LSB 194*

P The Lord be with you.

**C And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, 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

*LSB 195*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**



## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**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.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**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

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

*Sit*

## Distribution

*If you desire to commune, please speak to one of the pastors before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are members*

*of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation.*

*Please note that “gluten free” communion wafers are available for those who need them. Please tell the Communion Assistant “gluten free” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail. Also, for those who desire, highly diluted wine is available in individual cups (one drop of wine in the cup of water). Please tell the Communion Assistant “clear” when he approaches you at the Communion Rail.*

## **Distribution Hymns**

### **348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns**

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills  
And life to joy awakes.
- 2 Not as of old a little child,  
To bear and fight and die,  
But crowned with glory like the sun  
That lights the morning sky.
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn  
When Christ, victorious, rose  
And left the lonesome place of death  
Despite the rage of foes.
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn  
Shall dawn upon our race  
The day when Christ in splendor comes  
And we shall see His face.
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light and beauty brings.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:  
Come quickly, King of kings!

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### **936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel**

- 1 Sing praise to the God of Israel!  
Sing praise for His visitation!  
Redeeming His people from their sin,  
Accomplishing their salvation,  
Upraising a mighty horn within  
The house of His servant David!

- 2 God spoke by the prophets long ago,  
His promise on oath recalling—  
To Abraham made in former years:  
Of vanquishing foes appalling,  
That those He delivered from their fears  
Might gladly and truly serve Him.
- 3 You, child, will go on before the Lord  
As prophet, His way preparing;  
To speak on behalf of God Most High,  
His counsel of truth declaring:  
Rich mercy and grace for all whereby  
Iniquity is forgiven.
- 4 O bright, rising Sun, now shine on us  
In need of illumination;  
Come scatter the shades of sin and death  
And shatter their domination.  
Be guiding our footsteps on the path  
Of peace, in Your presence dawning!

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### **346 When All the World Was Cursed**

- 1 When all the world was cursed  
By Moses' condemnation,  
Saint John the Baptist came  
With words of consolation.  
With true forerunner's zeal  
The greater One he named,  
And Him, as yet unknown,  
As Savior he proclaimed.
- 2 Before he yet was born,  
He leaped in joyful meeting,  
Confessing Him as Lord  
Whose mother he was greeting.  
By Jordan's rolling stream,  
A new Elijah bold,  
He testified of Him  
Of whom the prophets told:
- 3 Behold the Lamb of God  
That bears the world's transgression,  
Whose sacrifice removes  
The devil's dread oppression.

Behold the Lamb of God,  
Who takes away our sin,  
Who for our peace and joy  
Will full atonement win.

- 4 O grant, dear Lord of love,  
That we receive, rejoicing,  
The word proclaimed by John,  
Our true repentance voicing,  
That gladly we may walk  
Upon our Savior's way  
Until we live with Him  
In His eternal day.

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*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB 199*

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace  
according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast  
prepared before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy  
people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy  
Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.**

**Thanksgiving**

*LSB 200*

- P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
C and His mercy endureth forever.**

- P Let us pray.  
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have  
refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You  
that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the  
same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one  
another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who  
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and forever.  
C Amen.**

- P The Lord be with you.  
C And with thy spirit.**

**Benedicamus***LSB 202*

- P Bless we the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**Benediction***LSB 202*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious  
unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you  
peace.  
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

**389 Let All Together Praise Our God**

- 1 Let all together praise our God  
Before His glorious throne;  
Today He opens heav'n again  
To give us His own Son,  
To give us His own Son.
- 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,  
Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone,  
Lies in a humble stall,  
Lies in a humble stall.
- 3 Within an earthborn form He hides  
His all-creating light;  
To serve us all He humbly cloaks  
The splendor of His might,  
The splendor of His might.
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange,  
Puts on our human frame,  
And in return gives us His realm,  
His glory, and His name,  
His glory, and His name.
- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:  
How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
No truer friend than He,  
No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door  
To blessed paradise;

The angel bars the way no more.  
To God our praises rise,  
To God our praises rise.

Stand

7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield  
And Spirit evermore;  
We praise You evermore.

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### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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## **ASSISTING AT WORSHIP**

**Preacher  
Presiding Minister**

**Rev. Colin Moon  
Rev. Patrick Niles**

**Organist**

**Sandy Kasten**

**Lay Readers**

**Roxy Mueller (5:30)  
Nancy Brown (8:00)  
Luther Bajus (10:30)**

**Communion Assistants**

**Dave Strohschoen & Phil Ditter (5:30)  
Dave Derus (8:00)  
Bob Irish (10:30)**

## UPCOMING ADVENT SERVICES

**8:30am and 6:00pm**

~~Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> — Presented by grades 4, 5 & 6~~

Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> — Presented by grades 3K, 4K, 5K & 8

Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> — Presented by grades 1, 2, 3 & 7

Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> — Presented by Pastor

**Soup Suppers will be held on these Wednesday evenings,  
beginning at 5:00pm, in the school cafeteria.**