St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

711 Court Street Pekin, IL 61554-1735 (309)-347-2136/2137

Rev. Daniel J. Bishop, Pastor

Carol Gnehm - Interim Principal, Good Shepherd Lutheran School - 347-2020

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 7, 2025

HOLY COMMUNION

TO OUR GUESTS AND MEMBERS: We receive the Lord's Supper, believing the Word of Jesus, that He gives into our mouths His true body and blood, miraculously united to the bread and wine, to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins, and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love one another, even as He forgives and loves us.

God's Word teaches us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great harm, and that this Holy Communion is a confession of the faith that is confessed in this church. Therefore any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or are members of a congregation not in the fellowship of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to commune, are asked to kindly speak with the pastor ahead of time. (Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-21; 11:17-34)

The Order of the Holy Communion

Prelude

Hymn – #61

"Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

Stand

Invocation

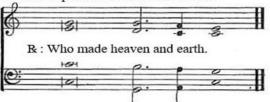
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.



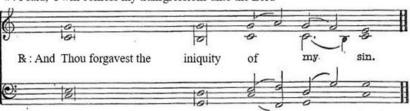
The Confession of Sins

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.

W: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

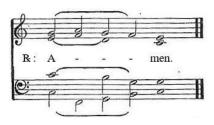


V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord



O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

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 Ghost.



Introit Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;

make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Seek the LORD and his strength;

seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

He is the LORD our God;

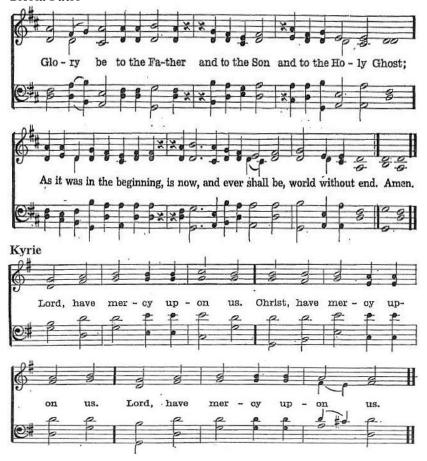
his judgments are in all the earth.

He remembers his covenant forever,

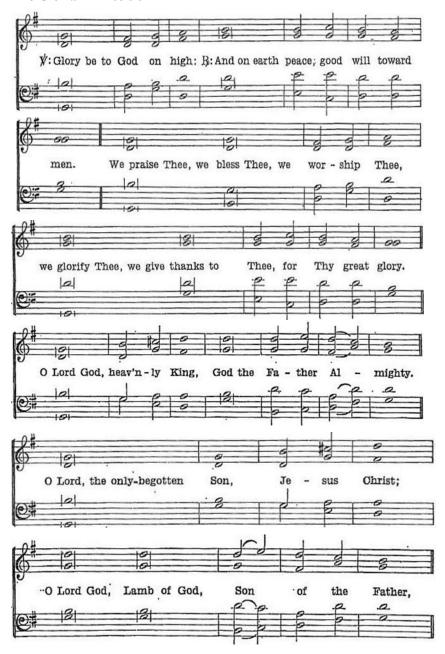
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

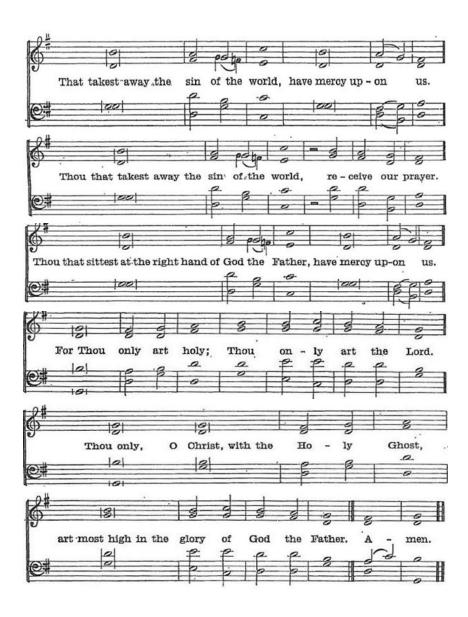
In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Gloria Patri



The Gloria in Excelsis





The Salutation



Let us pray.

The Collect for The Day

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.



Sit

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 11:1–10

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

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might,

the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³And 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,

⁴but 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.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶The 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.

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

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

⁹They 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.

¹⁰In 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.

Epistle Romans 15:4-13

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

⁸For 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, ⁹and 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."

¹⁰And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹And again,

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

¹²And again Isaiah says,

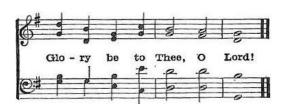
"The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

¹³May 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.



Holy Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

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



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

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

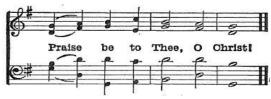
'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight."

⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But 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? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And 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. ¹⁰Even 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.

¹¹"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. ¹²His 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.



The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance

with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Sermon Hymn #63

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

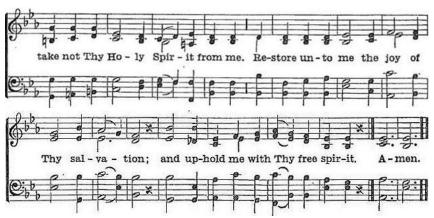
Sermon – "Receiving the Coarse Christ" Matthew 3:4-5

- John and Jesus Christ came in coarseness, and many people followed them.
- II. Let us receive the coarse Christ, the Crucified, for He is our only Savior

Stand

The Offertory





Sit

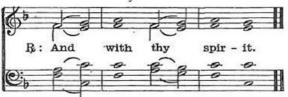
The Offering

Stand

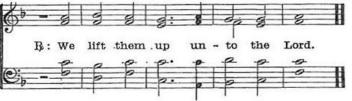
The General Prayer

The Preface

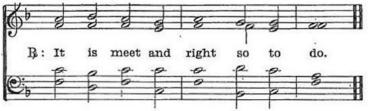
W: The Lord be with you.



W: Lift up your hearts.

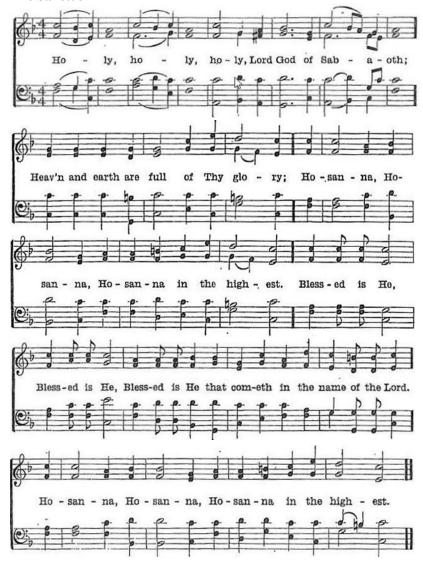


W: Let us give thanks unto the lord our God.



It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance, that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He cometh again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus



The Lord's Prayer

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;



The Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini

W: The peace of the Lord be with you alway!





Sit

Communion Distribution

Hymn #75 -- "Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken" -- "Behold, a Brach is Growing"

Hymn LSB #348 -- "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"



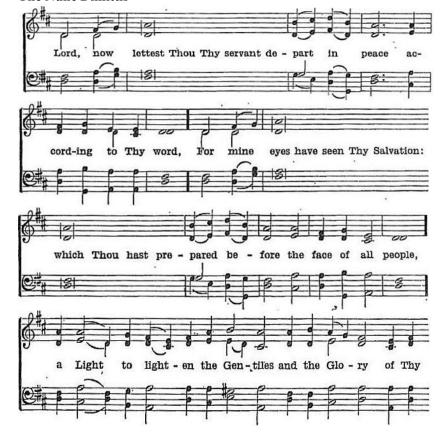
- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, To bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright-er than the 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo-rious morn Shall dawn up on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau-ty brings.

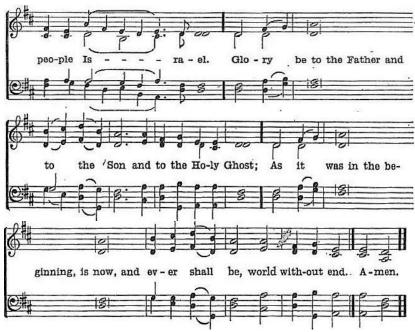


When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes. But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky. And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes. The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Stand

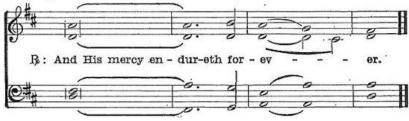
The Nunc Dimittis



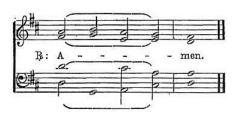


The Thanksgiving

W: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



W: The Lord be with you.

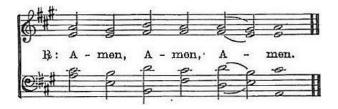


The Benediction

The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.



Sit

Closing Hymn #75 (7:00 p.m.)

"Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Hearken"

Silent Prayer & Postlude

Daily Readings December 7: Is. 24:1-13; 1 John 1:1-2:14; **8**: Is. 24:14-25:12; 1 John 2:15-25; **9**: Is. 26:1-29; 1 John 3:1-24; **10**: Is. 26:20-27:13; 1 John 4:1-21; **11**: Is. 28:14-29; 1 John 5:1-21; **12**: Is. 29:1-14; Jude 1-25; **13**: Is. 29:15-32:14; Rev. 1:1-20.

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