



The Third Sunday in Advent
December 15, A+D 2024



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

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DIVINE SERVICE

Setting 3 – Page 184

Lutheran Service Book

The Coming of Jesus Enables Us to Rejoice

The Third Sunday in Advent has traditionally been called by the Latin word *Gaudete*, meaning “Rejoice!” For as you are called to repentance, so also are you urged to rejoice in the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. By His own cross, He has accomplished salvation for you; “he has cleared away your enemies,” “taken away the judgments against you” and come to reign in your midst. Indeed, He rejoices over you with gladness and song (Zeph. 3:15-17)! Therefore, even from prison St. Paul encourages us to “rejoice in the Lord always,” knowing that the peace of God will guard and keep us in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:4, 7). We find an example and encouragement in the case of John the Baptist. As he languishes in prison, he calls upon Jesus and is strengthened by the Word of the Gospel that he receives. The same good news is preached to you, by which all things are made new and even “the dead are raised up” (Luke 7:22). Do not be offended by the cross, therefore, but let your life be one of prayer and thanksgiving (Luke 7:23; Phil. 4:6).

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

331 The Advent of Our King

Stand

Invocation

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

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

Exhortation

184

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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

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.**

Absolution

LSB 185

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.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 146:5–8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4

P Rejoice in the Lord always;

C again I will say, Rejoice.

P Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

C whose hope is in the LORD his God,

P who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

C who keeps faith forever;

P who executes justice for the oppressed,

C who gives food to the hungry.

P The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

C The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

P Rejoice in the Lord always;

C again I will say, Rejoice.

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

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.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14–20

A The Old Testament Reading for The Third Sunday in Advent is from the third chapter of the prophecy of Zephaniah.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;

you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst,

a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;

he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,

so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal

with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise

and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you in,

at the time when I gather you together;

for I will make you renowned and praised

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes

before your eyes,” says the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7

A The Second Reading is from the fourth chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

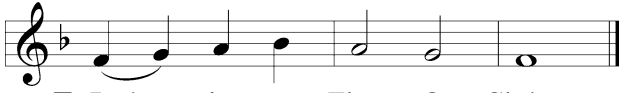
¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

²⁴When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.'

²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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 Spirit 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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in 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

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit***Gathering of Tithes & Offerings**

If you are submitting a prayer request on a prayer card, kindly hand it directly to the usher. Do not place it into the offering plate

*Stand***Prayer of the Church**

159

- P** . . . let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

- P** The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Full)

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 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bles - ed is He, bles - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

196

- P** 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



- C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

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 A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution of Christ's Body and Blood

Members of other Christian denominations who are present may come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor during the distribution. It is requested that you cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire this blessing.

Silent Prayer Just Before Communing: *Dear Savior, at your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Silent Prayer Just After Communing: *Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament. I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace the forgiveness of sins unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

628 Your Table I Approach

632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

Stand

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

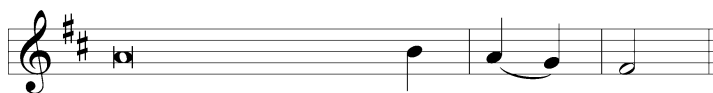
LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

**Thanksgiving**

200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A 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 A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

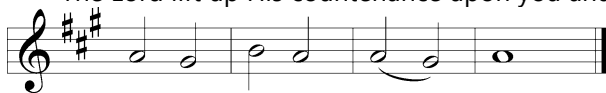
A Bless we the Lord.



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 A-men, a-men, a - men.

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**Acknowledgments**

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Prayer of the church is adapted from "Let us Pray" a service of the Commission on Worship of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



The Glad Spirit St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

December 15, 2024

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ST. PAUL'S FAMILY

Janet Sanders
Jennifer Saraivanov
Erik & Teresa Schassburger,
Alec Schassburger
Aaron Schassburger
Ethan Schassburger
Tara Schassburger
Laura Schassburger

BIRTHDAYS

Bill Sommer, 12/16
Kristen Dunne, 12/18
Margaret Loitz, 12/19

CONFIRMATION ANNIVERSARIES

Laurie Michels, 12/17
Shawn Conway, 12/18

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Pray for Norma Allen, Janice Abel, Sondra Budde, Jay Carey, Pastor and Pam Collins, Carmen Dampier, Judy Diekleman, Shirley Emerick, Latricia Harris, Ed Hoeksema Jr., Doris Leifert, Chester Orendorff, Violet Rich, Dolly Tagenhorst, Warren Van Mynen, Gene Wiltjer, Ray Zander.

Serving in the Military – Austin Brandy, James Fluechtling, Dakota Gaut and Nathan Lopez.

Serving as First Responders – David Allen, Dave Bloom, Nathan Conway, Brianne Giba, Melanie Hudson, Brian Orth, Dana Tatgenhorst, Taylor VanDommelen and Dan Zander.

NEWS UPDATE



St. Paul Book Club will meet Tuesday January 8th at 10:00 am, to review *The Medicine Woman of Galveston* by Amanda Skenandore. We always welcome new members. We enjoy fellowship and lunch following the discussion.

Christ For You the week of December 15th on KFUO.org: Tune in to Sharper Iron as we continue our study of Isaiah (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT) and wrap up the Gospel of John with the Resurrection account on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Don't forget to join us for this week's edition of Joy!, featuring sacred music for the Advent season. You can find the full program schedule at kfu.org/joy

Christianity & Other World Religions... Judaism, Islam, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Hinduism, Buddhism, Atheism, Scientology, Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, is doing a World Religions 101 series with Dr. Adam Francisco of Concordia University Chicago. You can listen to this multi-part series at issuesetc.org/worldreligions.

Word of Hope offers free and confidential counseling to women and men struggling with an abortion experience. If you would like more information on how Word of Hope can help you or someone you love, visit our website at www.word-of-hope.org. You can be healed.

We'd love to see you in worship. Our worship services are every Sunday at 9:30 AM. If you are unable to attend it can be viewed on Facebook live at www.facebook.com/splcms/videos. A previous recording is also available. Bulletins for the services are available for viewing or download on our website at www.splcms.org/worship.

“Who is going to be king? Christ or Herod? Christ or I? Every day we make dozens of decisions which either acknowledge Christ's lordship or which assert our own. The star of the Magi reminds the Christian that he has a gracious King to whom he can, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, submit his will and live. By His word Christ desires to reign in our hearts through faith!”
Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Luke 7

J S Q Q U L N Q S J H D D O R A J
 B Y A V W Y S K G I F T A W P O Q
 J U E A C L Y T Z J Y L P J U C U
 X L H R G P R A E K X Y G U T J O
 W A E M C F O T V E H N Y U P P J
 U M E N R U E T U U F O S L V E Z
 Z U K G I A V U D O F M L U R R E
 U H U N C W S N T N O I X J W F E
 P A L H W U O J T T R S E D R U S
 O J E H S H M M N P G V O Q G M I
 L R W E F B R O A Z I D D D N E R
 A A J Y I X V D K N V C C D I P A
 I N J R O Y I E T N E Z N J H G H
 J Y C N L N Z V H B N U E E S K P
 U T P K N S Y O P X E U B O A M N
 I Z I E A L P L B F S D Q O W C G
 N S R X N Q U U H V S T U I C G H

forgiveness	Pharisee	teacher	washing
perfume	dinner	woman	Simon
mercy	Jesus	Luke	debt
feet	love	gift	jar

GOD'S PEOPLE IN ACTION



ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

December 4th Attendance 14

December 8th Attendance 17, 17 Communed, 10 Online

Envelopes	\$771.00	Weekly Missions	\$20.00
Basket	195.00	Church Maint	10.00
General Fund	1,650.00	Social Ministry	55.00
Fellowship	49.00		
Advent	411.00		
Budgeted Total	3,076.00	Non-budgeted Total	\$85.00
Offering Needed	1,362.00		
	\$1,714.00		



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Today

9:30 am Worship Service
 10:30 am Coffee &...
 10:45 am *A Children's Christmas Practice*

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

9:30 am Advent Worship Service
 10:30 am Advent Breakfast & Fellowship

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

9:30 am *A Children's Christmas*
 9:45 am Worship Service
 10:45 am Coffee &...

SERVANT SCHEDULE

	Sun, Dec 15, 9:30 AM	Sun, Dec 22, 9:30 AM
Pastor	Rev. Mark Zuehsow	Rev. Mark Zuehsow
Usher	Bill Sommer	Dave Bloom
Lay Reader	Tracy Middleton	Micci Orth

DONATIONS



FOOD PANTRY



GENERAL FUND