





# WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

**LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH** welcomes you as you join with us in worship this day. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We ask guests and members to fill them out each week. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.*

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## Advent Adverbs: Joyfully

Advent is a most joyful time and a time for great praise of our God. Today is the “joyful Sunday” in Advent. With Mary’s beautiful song, the Magnificat, we exult that God has “done great things” and that “His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation” (*LSB*, pp. 248–49). With Mary, we rejoice that God “has shown strength with His arm” especially to those who are lowly and humbled. In his paraphrase of the Magnificat, hymnwriter Stephen Starke invites us to “Sing the greatness of the Lord” and “With praise and blessing Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy” (*LSB* 933:1). There is so much joy in Advent—it simply must be shared!

## Pre-Service Music

## Welcome/Announcements

## We Call Upon the Name of the Lord

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

Psalm 100; 118:24

- L** This is the day that the LORD has made;
- G** let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- L** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
- G** Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!
- L** Know that the LORD, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.
- G** Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!
- L** Give thanks to Him; bless His name!
- G** For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

## Hymn: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

LSB 528

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing<br>My great Redeemer’s praise,<br>The glories of my God and King,<br>The triumphs of His grace! | To spread through all the earth abroad,<br>The honors of Thy name.  |
| 2 My gracious Master and my God,<br>Assist me to proclaim,   | 5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own<br>Your God, ye fallen race.<br>Look and be saved through faith alone,<br>Be justified by grace. |

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Confession and Forgiveness

- L** Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- G** Merciful Father, our Lord and King, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done. We have not always made Your kingdom of first importance in our lives. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives



**that each day we may grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**

- [L]** God is gracious and forgiving. He shows His kingly power in ways that are merciful. To each of us, our Lord says, “Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. I now announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

**[C]** Amen.

### **Hymn: “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**

LSB 528 vs 4, 7

**4** He breaks the pow’r of canceled sin;  
He sets the pris’ner free.  
His blood can make the foulest clean;  
His blood avails for me.

**7** To God all glory, praise, and love  
Be now and ever giv’n  
By saints below and saints above,  
The Church in earth and heav’n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### **Greeting**

**[L]** The Lord be with you.

**[C]** And also with you.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**[L]** 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]** Amen.

*(During the singing of the hymn, three candles on the Advent wreath are lighted.)*

### **Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

LSB 357 vs 1-2, 5

**1** O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

**2** O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord’rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain

**ref** Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**5** O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav’nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## **+ God Speaks to Us Through His Word +**

### **God Speaks to Us Through His Prophet**

Isaiah 35:1–10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of



God. He will come and save you.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **Choir: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

arr. by John Carter

## **God Speaks to Us Through His Apostle**

James 5:7–11

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **God Speaks to Us Through His Son**

Matthew 11:2–15

**L** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

As they went away, 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? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”



**L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

Tim Douglas

### Hymn: "When All the World Was Cursed"

LSB 346

- 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.

Text: Johann Gottfried Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Paul E. Kretzmann, 1883–1965, alt.  
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## God Speaks to Us Through Pastor Bailes: "Patiently Joyful"

James 5:7-11

### Creed

The Third Article

- L** The Third Sunday in Advent is a joy-filled Sunday in which we can thank God for His gracious plan for our salvation and for the Holy Spirit, who guides our lives of faith and joins us together in the community of the Church. We speak the words of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed with joyful confidence:



**C** 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.

**L** What does this mean?

**C** I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

## Prayer of the Church

**L** Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for Your holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Save and defend Your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the holy Sacraments, making them perfect in love and in all good works, and establishing in them the faith once delivered to the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Send the light of Your truth into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home and in distant lands. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** In Your mercy strengthen newly established congregations, and support them in challenging times. Make them steadfast, abounding in the work of the Lord, and let their faith and zeal for the Gospel refresh and renew the witness of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Preserve our nation in justice and honor that we may lead a peaceable life with integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the president and congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of this state, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. Help them to serve this people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**L** Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and order our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to the nations of the world that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.



- L** Bless the schools of the Church and all colleges, universities, and centers of research and those who teach and work in them. Grant Your wisdom in such measure that people may serve You honorably in Church and state, and that our common life may be conformed to the ways of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Sanctify our homes with Your presence, and bless them with joy. Keep our children in the covenant of their Baptism, and enable their parents to bring them up in lives of faith and devotion. Unite the members of all families in a spirit of affection and service that they may show Your praise in our land and in all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Let Your blessing remain upon the seedtime and harvest, the commerce and industry, the leisure and rest, the arts and culture of our people. Take under Your special protection those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and be with all who put their hands to any useful task. Give them the just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is a blessing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity (especially *[name]*). Be with those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## Recognition and Reception of New Members

### We Worship God with Our Offerings

*(Our offerings give us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many ways He has blessed us. Members and regular attendees support God's mission and ministry as He works through this congregation. Guests are welcome to give an offering, but are not expected to do so. Psalm 54:6; 116:12-14, 17)*

### Offertory: "Interlude"

**+ Our Lord Comes to Us in His Body and His Blood +**


- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**



- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Holy is the Lord

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## The Words of Our Lord

- 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.  
**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## 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.

## Peace of the Lord

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



## Hymn: "Your Table I Approach"

LSB 628

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Your table I approach;<br/>Dear Savior, hear my prayer.<br/>Let not an unrepentant heart<br/>Prove hurtful to me there.</p> <p>2 Lord, I confess my sins<br/>And mourn their wretched bands;<br/>A contrite heart is sure to find<br/>Forgiveness at Your hands.</p> <p>3 Your body and Your blood,<br/>Once slain and shed for me,<br/>Are taken at Your table, Lord,<br/>In blest reality.</p> | <p>4 Search not how this takes place,<br/>This wondrous mystery;<br/>God can accomplish vastly more<br/>Than what we think could be.</p> <p>5 O grant, most blessed Lord,<br/>That earth and hell combined<br/>May not about this sacrament<br/>Raise doubt within my mind.</p> <p>6 Oh, may I never fail<br/>To thank You day and night<br/>For Your true body and true blood,<br/>O God, my peace and light.</p> |
|---|--|

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

- P** Let us pray.  
Blessed are You, heavenly Father and King eternal, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Strengthen us through this gracious Meal that we may live joyfully and daily show forth Your love through acts of mercy. Support us in this life and bring us at last to the unending feast in Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** Amen.

## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- G** Amen.

## Hymn: "Hark the Glad Sound"

LSB 349

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,<br/>The Savior promised long;<br/>Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne<br/>And ev'ry voice a song.</p> <p>2 He comes the pris'ners to release,<br/>In Satan's bondage held.<br/>The gates of brass before Him burst,<br/>The iron fetters yield.</p> | <p>3 He comes the broken heart to bind,<br/>The bleeding soul to cure,<br/>And with the treasures of His grace<br/>To enrich the humble poor.</p> <p>4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,<br/>Thy welcome shall proclaim,<br/>And heav'n's eternal arches ring<br/>With Thy belovèd name.</p> |
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Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51  
Text: Public domain



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