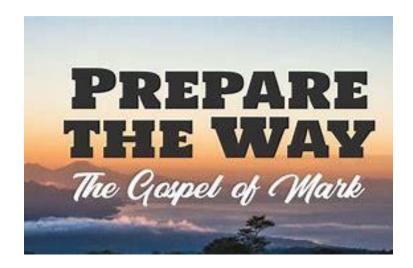
Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

December 10, 2023
Second Sunday in Advent



2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792
Church Phone 692-7027 Preschool Phone 698-5900

Church E-mail: mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com Website: www.mtpisgahlutheran.com

Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH 9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday



We are delighted to have you worship with us today. May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER



Holy Communion is celebrated at all services every Sunday and on special festivals. This Sacrament is the means by which Jesus Christ, the bread of life, gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. In this Meal, Jesus forgives our sins, gives us victory over death and Satan, and delivers his eternal salvation to us. Since this is the true body and true blood of Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, we do not treat this sacrament lightly; rather, we receive it with great reverence and gratitude

to our merciful Savior. Moreover, St. Paul writes: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself (1 Cor. 11:27-29)." An order of self-examination is located on pages 329-330 of your hymnal.

To ensure that all who participate in this sacrament receive this sacred gift as the blessing it is intended to be and not to their condemnation, this congregation, with Christian love and in accordance with Holy Scripture, practices closed communion with those who have been instructed and share our public profession of the Christian faith in all its articles. We therefore ask our guests who wish to commune to speak with the Pastor before the service.

We provide both the common cup and individual cups. The individual cups in the center of tray are alcohol free for those with medical requirements that prevent them from receiving alcohol. Wine, however, is the preferred means to receive the blood of Christ, if and when possible, since wine is what Jesus used to institute this sacrament. Likewise, we use unleavened bread, as our Lord did. Gluten-free hosts are also available for those with medical needs. Please alert the Pastor or an Elder of any needs.

Rev. Jonathan Christensen - Pastor mplc.pastor@gmail.com Office: (828) 692-7027 ex.402

Cell: (920)530-8606

Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday in Advent

Flowers are given to the glory of God In thanks for the blessings of families by Lyn Heiple

Serving Today

Pastor Jonathan Christensen

Robert Hamrick, Organist Craig Escude, Choir Director/Cantor

Debby Zagone

Nona Schmook

8:00 AM 10:45 AM **Elders Paul Mincer David White Paul Mincer Debby Zagone** Lectors Ushers **Jackie Fry** Nona Schmook Greeter **Altar Guild Marilyn Pittman Debbie Leger** Michele Escude`

Serving Next Week December 17

	<u>8:00 AM</u>	<u>10:45 AM</u>
Lectors	Jerry Kaufman	Kathy Kirchoefer
Ushers	-	-

Jackie Fry

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

Greeter

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

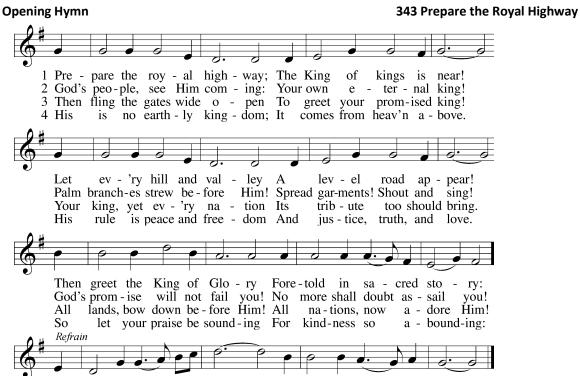
The Divine Service: Setting Three

Prelude

Prepare the Royal Highway

Egil Hovland

Stand



Confession and Absolution

For He

ful - fills

God's Word!

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

the

 $label{P}$ In the name of the Father and of the $lap{H}$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Lord,

- 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,
- who made heaven and earth.

Ho - san - na to

- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Sit

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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

Stand

Introit *

Psalm 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: v. 3 Tone H

Restore us, O God;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

You brought a vine out of | Egypt;*

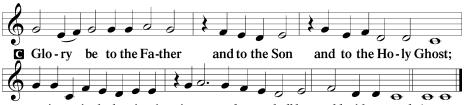
it took deep root and | filled the land.

Restore us, O | God of hosts;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

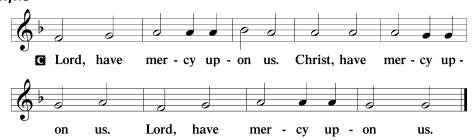
Restore us, O God;*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!



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

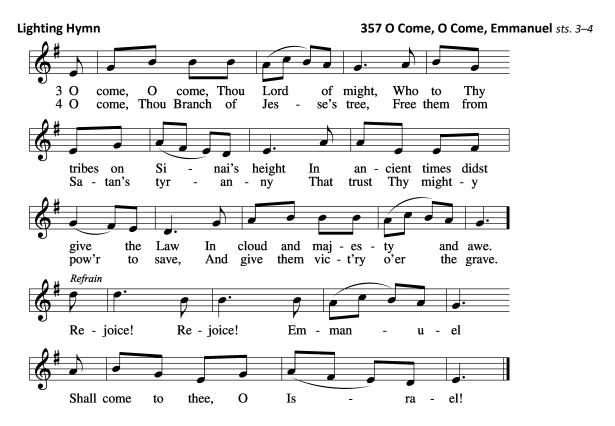
Kyrie LSB 186



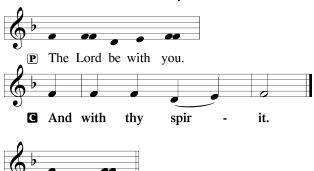
Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Luke 21:26b-27

- P Alleluia. The powers of the heavens will be shaken,
- and then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Alleluia.



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P 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

P Let us pray.

Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

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

Psalm *Psalm 85; antiphon: v. 9*

```
¹LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
²You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.
³You withdrew | all your wrath;*
you turned from your hot | anger.

⁴Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,*
and put away your indignation | toward us!

⁵Will you be angry with us for- | ever?*
Will you prolong your anger to all gener- | ations?
```

⁶Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?

⁷Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,* and grant us your sal- | vation.

8Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,* for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to | folly.

⁹Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,* that glory may dwell | in our land.

¹⁰Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet;* righteousness and peace kiss each | other.

¹¹Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,* and righteousness looks down | from the sky.

12Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,* and our land will yield its | increase.

¹³Righteousness will go be- | fore him* and make his foot- | steps a way.

Epistle 2 Peter 3:8–14

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

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

Stand

Alleluia LSB 190



Holy Gospel Mark 1:1–8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,

who will prepare your way,

³the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,""

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



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 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 worshiped 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.



Sermon

we

a - dore

And





Ho - ly

Spir

it

ev

er - more.

LSB 192

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
 - Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved! As You led Joseph like a flock, so now by Your Son lead us into straight paths. Bring us out of the bondage of our sins, and plant us securely in Your eternal promises. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Gracious God, You sent John the Baptist to herald the coming Messiah and proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. In these latter days, You send pastors to proclaim the same repentance for the forgiveness of sins, and through them lead Your people to trust in Your salvation. Look with kindness upon all pastors, that they may be diligent and faithful heralds of Your beloved Son. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P God of all comfort, Your Word alone endures forever. The nations of the world come and go before You, even kings and rulers are like grass before Your breath. Preserve us from placing our trust in princes and mortal men. Give us rulers who will rule after Your good pleasure, keeping order and protecting life, that we may live peaceably in godly quietness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- @ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, to our prayers [especially for _____]. Give healing, courage and perseverance to all who cry to You, that they may find comfort in Your enduring Word and the certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life with Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** Father, we know that You are not slow in keeping Your promises. We thank You for Your patience. Do not take Your Spirit from us when we stray from Your commandments, but convict us of our sin and draw us back to You in repentance. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord, You invite us again to Your table to receive the medicine of immortality in the body and blood of Christ, Your Son. May we receive this Sacrament rightly, that with faith strengthened and sins forgiven our lives may be lived in holiness and godliness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- Lord, as we in the Church on earth wait for the coming of Your Son, we remember all the saints who have gone before us and now rest in Your presence. Keep us safe in Your arms until You gather Your people together in the new heavens and new earth in which righteousness dwells. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P 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.

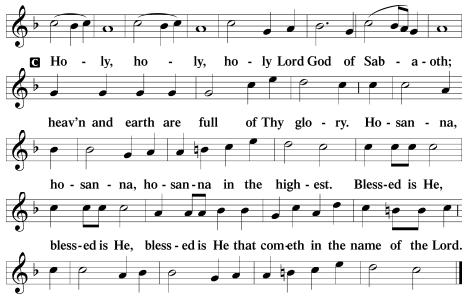
Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194



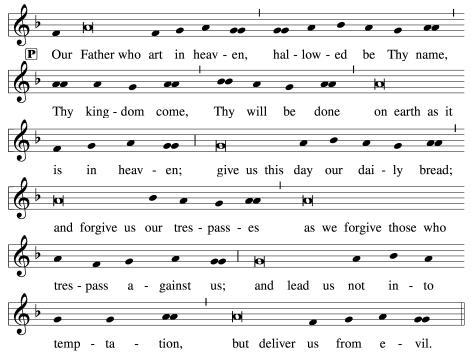
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin 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



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







The Words of Our Lord LSB 197

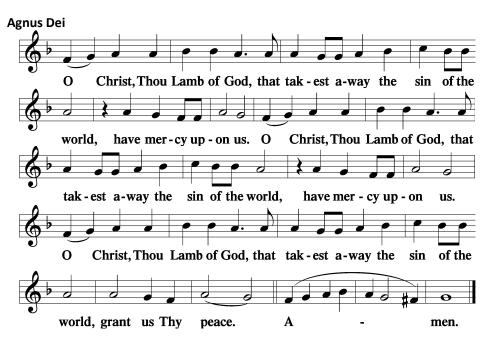
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

LSB 198

Pax Domini LSB 197





Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

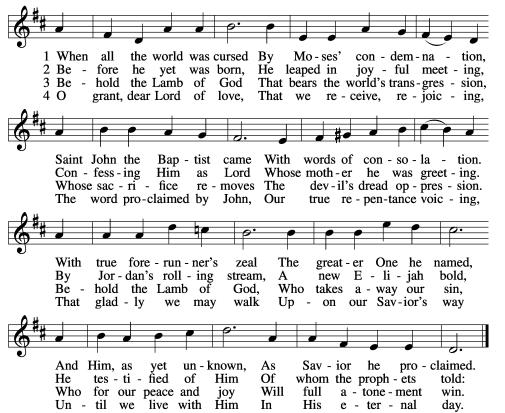
Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- 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.



346 When All the World Was Cursed



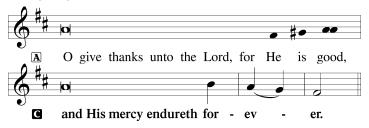


- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor, Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me, With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.
- 6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror, Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Nunc Dimittis

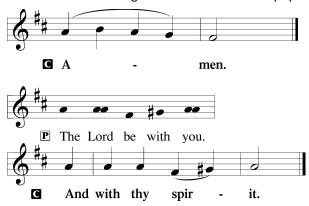


Thanksgiving LSB 200

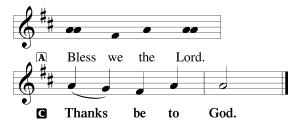


A Let us pray.

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.



Benedicamus LSB 202



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.





Postlude

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Johann Pachelbel