

Wednesday, December 2nd

Advent Midweek Service #1

**If Participating in the
Service from Your Vehicle
Please Tune Your Car Radio to 93.1 FM**

P R E P A R E Y E

Ponder



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NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE:

Our service today will take place in the sanctuary. We ask that you only participate in the service in the sanctuary if you are free of any COVID-19 related symptoms and have not been exposed to anyone with COVID-19. All who participate in the sanctuary are asked to sanitize their hands upon entry, wear a mask for the entirety of the service, and leave at least six feet of lateral space in each pew between groups. Every other row has been marked off for increased distancing between groups.

For those who would prefer to continue to participate in the service from their vehicles, you are able to do so. Please park on the east side of the church building and you will be provided with a bulletin.

- By tuning your car radio to 93.1 FM, you will be able to hear the service taking place inside. Please participate fully in the congregational responses, singing, and prayers!
- In order to register your attendance with us today, please fill out the attendance sheet on the back cover of your bulletin. You will tear this page off and hand it in with the offering. An usher will come to collect the offering and attendance sheets from you during the final hymn.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Saint Michael's Lutheran Church exists to worship God, love one another, and serve all people according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Prepare Ye

A Series of Special Services for Advent

Week 1: Ponder

Order of Service

We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. Psalm 48:9

Welcome to Worship

Invocation and Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

C Be strong and courageous, be careful to live according to everything Moses commanded.

P Do not let God's Word depart from your mouth.

C But meditate on it day and night.

P Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

C Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts because nothing is impossible with our God!

Hymn

"The Advent of Our King"

LSB #331



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Almighty God, because nothing is impossible with you, we come into your presence confessing our sin, confident of your mercy and forgiveness. For lack of reverence; for calculating minds; for going along with the majority—
- C O Christ, forgive us.**
- P** For selfishness that dares not face truth; laziness content with half-truth; for artificial life and worship—
- C O Christ, forgive us.**
- P** For self-indulgence; for being pompous and puffed up with self-importance—
- C O Christ, forgive us.**
- P** For cynicism about our fellow Christians; for cruel indifference; for being satisfied with things as they are and failing to trust that with you nothing is impossible—
- C O Christ, forgive us.**
- P** For token concern for the poor, the lonely and the loveless people; for confusing faith with good feelings—
- C O Christ, forgive us.**
- P** For everything in us that hides your divine power—
- C Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**
- P** Hear the good news! Because of his death and resurrection, Jesus is our Savior. The Lord God has given to him the throne of his father David. Jesus reigns over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. Therefore, you are fully and forever forgiven in Jesus' name.
- C Nothing is impossible with our God!**

Prayer of the Day

- P** Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and resurrection be convinced anew that absolutely nothing is impossible with you; for you live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 1:7-9

⁷Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹Have I not

commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:15-17

¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
 All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
 In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
 Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
 And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!

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Sermon

Rev. Nate Hill

Prayers

P Heavenly Father, we have a lot in common with Mary. When we consider the enormity of the promises you have made accompanying the birth of Jesus, we also ask, "How will this be?" To which you answer back in your Word,

C **Nothing is impossible with our God.**

P Father, every promise you have made about Jesus and our redemption purchased through his shed blood and empty tomb will happen. Indeed, your great and glorious promises are always "Yes and Amen." And so we confess,

C Nothing is impossible with our God.

P Jesus, on your Second Advent, you will finish making all things new—changing this sinful and dying world into the New Jerusalem. This promise is so overwhelming that you remind us,

C Nothing is impossible with our God.

P Father, heal the pain in our families. Restore unity. Release compassion and kindness. And let the love of Jesus pervade and permeate our homes. We believe that,

C Nothing is impossible with our God.

P Father, through your Holy Spirit, empower us to think of others more often than ourselves; not to keep a record of wrongs; and no longer rehearse the ways others have hurt us, and the ways we've hurt them. Remind us again that,

C Nothing is impossible with our God.

P And so we say with Mary, we are your servants, Lord. Let it be to us according to your Word.

C We pray in Jesus' glorious and grace-filled name. Amen.

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.**

Benediction

P Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight in the desert a highway for our God!

C Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

P So that whatever we do, in word or deed.

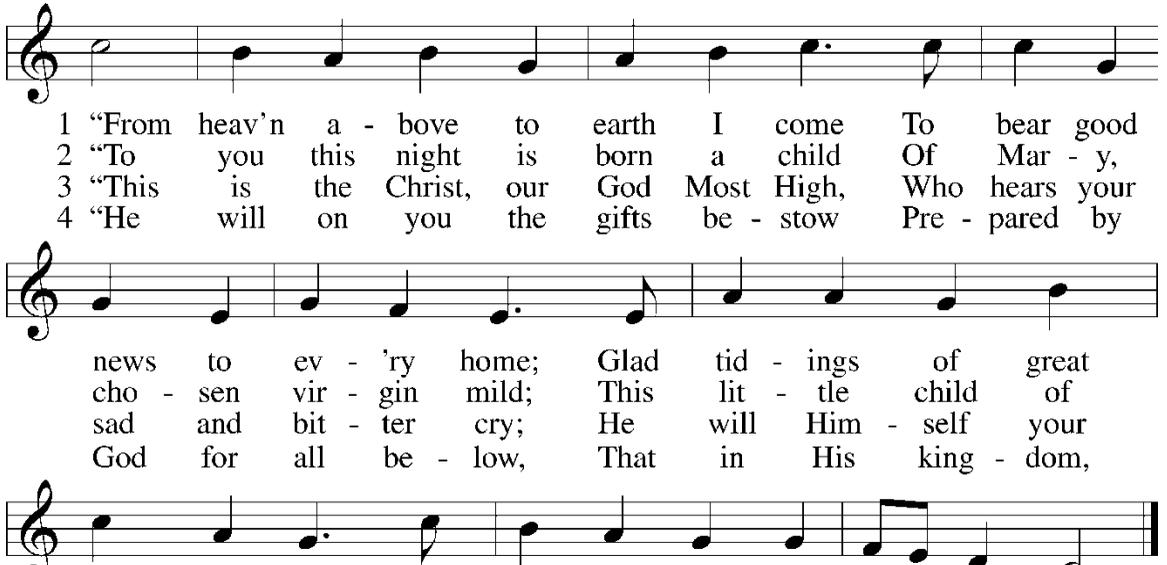
C We do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

P Giving thanks to God the Father through him because

C **Nothing is impossible with our God!**

Closing Hymn *“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”* LSB#358 v. 1-4, 14

Those participating in the service from their vehicles will have an usher approach their vehicle during the closing hymn to collect the offering and attendance sheet.



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
2 “To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
4 “He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by

news to ev - ’ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,

joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share.

14 My heart for very joy must leap;
My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

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The Offering

The offering will be collected today as you exit the church building. Please consider transitioning to making your regular tithe or offering online at www.stmichaelswinchester.org/give



Please also fill out the attendance register on the back page of your bulletin, tear it off and place it into the offering basket.

**SAINT MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION**

DATE: December 2nd 2020

NAME(S) AND CONTACT INFORMATION*		MEMBER	VISITOR	DESIRES A CALL	COMMUNING TODAY?
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				
NAME(S)	ADDRESS				
PHONE	EMAIL				

***NOTE: VISITORS, PLEASE PROVIDE ALL CONTACT INFORMATION; MEMBERS, UPDATED INFORMATION ONLY**