



Lutheran Church & Christian School



Advent Midweek

December 9, 2019

Hipparchus & the 7 Martyrs of Samosata

Redeemed, Restored, & Rejoicing in Jesus!

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PRESERVICE SONG *“Take My Life” (Words & Music by Scott Underwood © 1994
Mercy/Vineyard Publishing)*

1. Holiness, holiness is what I long for. Holiness is what I need.
Holiness, holiness is what You want from me.
2. Faithfulness ...

*Chorus: So take my heart; conform it. Take my mind; transform it.
Take my will; conform it to Yours, to Yours, O Lord.*

3. Righteousness, righteousness is what I long for.
Righteousness is what I need.
Righteousness, righteousness is what You give to me.
(Chorus and repeat)

To Yours, to Yours, O Lord.

WELCOME

+ Stand +

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

LSB 253

CONFESSION *(Left column)*

LSB 254

PSALM *Psalm 80:1-7 (Antiphon v. 7)*

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;

Congregation: **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

Congregation: **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**

Pastor: Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might

Congregation: **and come to save us!**

Pastor: Restore us, O God;

Congregation: **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: O LORD God of hosts,
Congregation: **how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?**

Pastor: You have fed them with the bread of tears
Congregation: **and given them tears to drink in full measure.**

Pastor: You make us an object of contention for our neighbors,
Congregation: **and our enemies laugh among themselves.**

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;
Congregation: **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;
Congregation: **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

+ Sit +

HYMN "O Light Whose Splendor"

LSB 891

1 O Light whose splen - dor thrills and glad - dens
2 As twi - light hov - ers near at sun - set,
3 In all life's bril - liant time - less mo - ments,
With ra - diance bright - er than the sun,
And lamps are lit, and chil - dren nod,
Let faith - ful voic - es sing Your praise,
Pure gleam of God's un - end - ing glo - ry,
In eve - ning hymns we lift our voic - es
O Son of God, our Life - be - stow - er,
O Je - sus, blest A - noint - ed One;
To Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son: one God.
Whose glo - ry light - ens end - less days.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 40:1-11 ("Comfort, comfort My people.")*

¹ Comfort, comfort My people, says your God.

² Speak 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.

³ A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every 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.

⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶ A 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.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹ Go on 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!"

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and His arm rules for Him;
behold, His reward is with Him,
and His recompense before Him.

¹¹ He 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

+ Stand +

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8 (John the Baptist prepares the way.)

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

Congregation: Glory to You, O Lord.

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

² As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,
“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,

³ the voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight,’”

⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And 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.

⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And 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.

⁸ I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Pastor: In many and in various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

Congregation: But now, in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

RESPONSORY

LSB 255



+ Sit +

MEDITATIONHistorical Note:

During a stay at Samosata (in Syria), the eastern Roman Caesar and Emperor Galerius convened a festival for which he ordered his entire army to offer sacrifices to the pagan gods. But two Christian magistrates, Hipparchus (not to be confused with the 2nd century Greek astronomer) and Philotheus, stayed away from the festivities, spending their time in prayer before a cross they had made for their devotions. Five young men who visited them asked about the cross, prompting a discussion that led them to request baptism. A priest was summoned, who came to the house, carrying with him the vessels for the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, hidden under his cloak (an action that seems a likely antecedent to the current practice of covering the vessels at Communion). The priest baptized the five young men and gave them Holy Communion. Soon afterward, Hipparchus, Philotheus, and the five new converts were summoned before Galerius. Resisting Galerius' demand that they offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, the seven were eventually crucified.

+ Stand +

PRAYER*LSB 256***LORD’S PRAYER***LSB 257***SONG OF SIMEON***LSB 258***BENEDICTION***LSB 259*

CLOSING HYMN *“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r, when we were gone astray.

Chorus:

*Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heav'nly Father, a bless`ed Angel came,
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name. *(Chorus)*

The Shepherds at those tidings rejoic`ed much in mind
And left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm, and wind,
And went straightway to Bethlehem the Son of God to find. *(Chorus)*

And when they came to Bethlehem, where our dear Savior lay,
They found Him in a manger where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling down unto the Lord did pray. *(Chorus)*

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface. *(Chorus)*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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Announcing Advent

“The Heroes [aka Saints] of Advent”

In a world that seeks true and lasting role models of faith and life, you are invited to meet some of Christ's own - some known, others less known.

Sunday Divine Service - 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.

December 13 - St. Lucia, Martyr

December 20 - The Eve of St. Thomas, Apostle

December 27 - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

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Wednesday Mid-Week Compline - 7:00p.m.

[Sub Theme: “The Postures of Advent”]

[Sorry, No Suppers This Year ☹️]

December 16 - Eusebius, Pastor & the Eve of Lazarus

Advent devotional resources available on the table in the Narthex