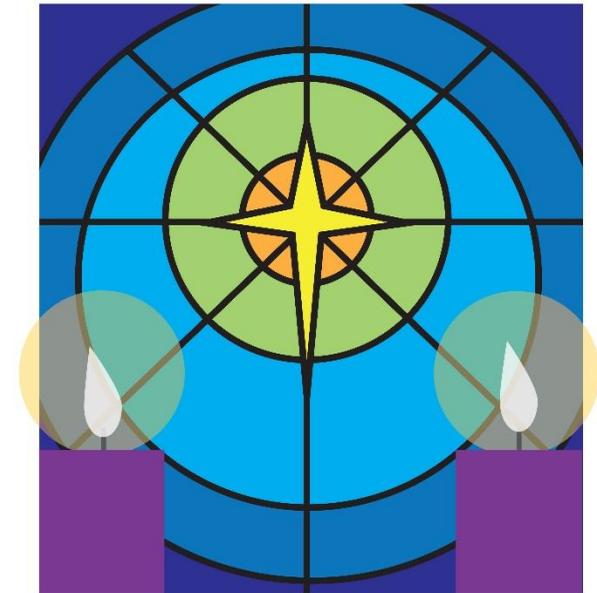


For next week: Read John 1:10-13 and answer the following questions:

1. This section contrasts those in the world who reject Jesus and those who recognize Him for who He is. Why do some reject while others accept?
2. John 1:10 employs the term "world" three times. In spite of being rejected by the world, see John 3:16 to see how God responds. What does this teach you about God's love?
3. We are God's children. Does this happen naturally or were we adopted?



SECOND SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Good morning and welcome to worship today!

Today we continue our Advent theme, "The Word Became Flesh." It was God's plan to send someone to prepare the way for His Son, Jesus Christ. That person who prepared the way was John the Baptist. John called people to repent of their sins and prepare for their Savior. Our sermon title is, "A Man Named John."



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 5, 2021
Second Sunday in Advent
Paul C. Appold, Pastor
Ken Thies, Organist

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Worship: Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: Sunday 9:30 a.m. & throughout the week

Opening Litany

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C: He was with God in the beginning.

P: Through Him all things were made

C: Without Him nothing was made that has been made.

P: In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

C: The light shines in the darkness but the darkness has not overcome it.

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

C: We have seen His glory the glory of the One and Only.

P: Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

C: From His fullness we have all received grace upon grace.

P: The Law was given through Moses.

C: Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Old Testament

Isaiah 40:1-11

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.

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-3

For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. ¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

John 1:6-9;15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'")

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

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Closing Hymn LSB 343

"Prepare the Royal Highway"