

Third Sunday of Advent
Divine Service, Setting Four
December 13, 2020

Regarding the Lord's Supper – Today as we celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion we will receive the body and blood of our Savior. We receive the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Mindful of the Scriptural teaching concerning Church fellowship (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 10:17; 1 Cor. 11:26; Rom. 16:17), we practice closed communion. Communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, are encouraged to commune this morning. Guests desiring to receive the sacrament are encouraged to speak with the pastor.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

LSB 515



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'rings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride-groom is at hand.
 In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Public domain

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

Invocation

LSB 203

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** who made heaven and earth.

- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

LSB 203

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Introit

Ps. 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: Ps. 85:7

- P** Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.
- C** Let 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.
- P** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
- C** Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

P Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

All **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.**

P Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C **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. Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.
⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
⁸For I the LORD love justice;
I hate robbery and wrong;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
 and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
 all who see them shall acknowledge them,
 that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.
¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
 my soul shall exult in my God,
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to sprout up before all the nations.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Holy Gospel

John 1:6–8, 19–28

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

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

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

LSB 206

C **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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

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.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

G **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.

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 † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P 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."

Pax Domini

LSB 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

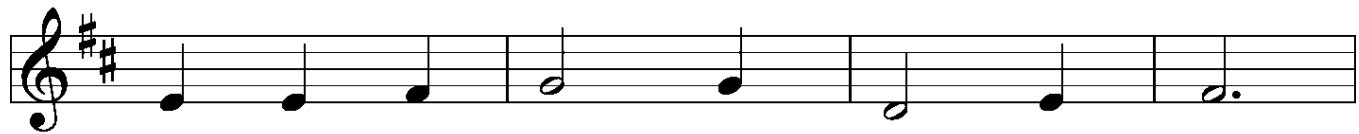
LSB 210



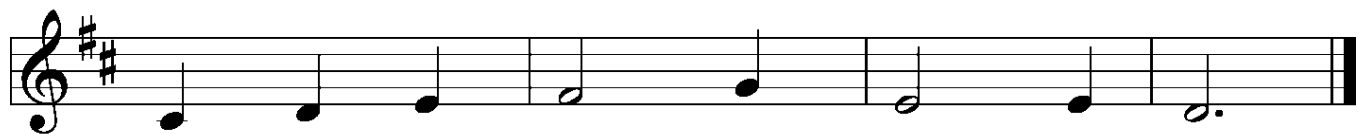
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

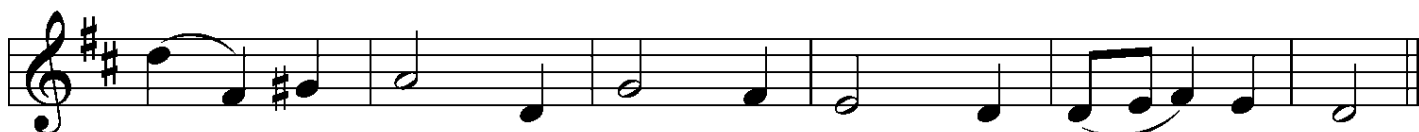
Distribution



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
 rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
 Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Distribution Hymn: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Public domain



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
 3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
 deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
 mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
 on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

5 When from the dust of death I rise
 To claim my mansion in the skies,
 This then shall be my only plea:
 Jesus hath lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
 Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
 For me, and all Thy hands have made,
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Public domain

Stand

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to in lead the the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect**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 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.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 212

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.

C Amen.

Hymn: Hark the Glad Sound

LSB 349



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Public domain

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.