

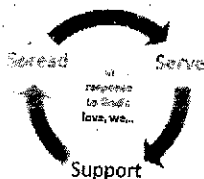
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MISSION STATEMENT:

*In response to God's love for us, we SERVE God,
SUPPORT Christian fellowship,
And SPREAD the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people*

Volume 76

December 6, 2020

No. 49

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

+ Service of Holy Communion +

9:00 AM

AS WE GATHER – *This year, the holy evangelist St. Mark greets us to lead us through a new Church Year. He does not, however, greet us as we might expect. For one thing, he seems to have forgotten all about Christmas! At least Matthew and Luke tell of Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger and of angels and shepherds. But Mark? While Christmas is the earthly "beginning" of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, this preacher means that his entire Gospel, the whole biblical story, is but "the beginning of the Gospel." It is as if he means to say that the Baptist's call to repentance comes to us *In Medias Res*, that is, in the middle of everything else, in the middle of the biblical story and in the middle of our lives and activities, right now. He is saying, "Stop what you're doing. Repent again and welcome the Greater One, Jesus Christ, the Son of God." The Christian faith and life is one of continual repentance and faith. Watch and listen as our Lord comes to us again, now, by His Spirit in His Word and Sacraments.*

PRESERVICE MUSIC

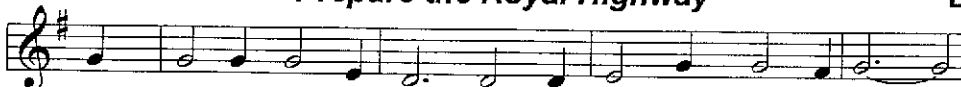
WELCOME

♩ [Means please stand; ♪ Means please be seated]

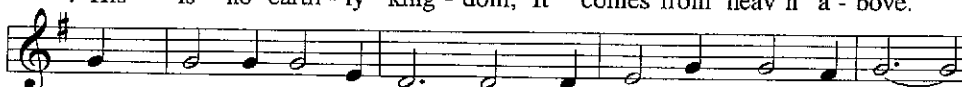
♩ OPENING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

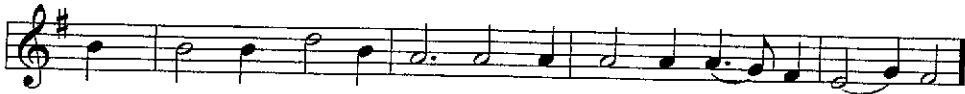
LSB 343



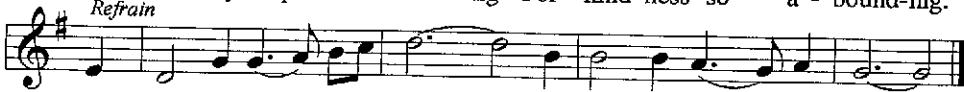
- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing; Your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
 So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

- P** *Prepare the way of the Lord. Recalling our Baptism into Christ, we confess our sins to God in the full assurance of the gift of forgiveness by the mighty sacrifice of His Son.*
- C** **O God, from the wilderness of lives disfigured and crushed by the devil, our own sin, and the sins of others, we cry out to You for the forgiveness of our sins, those that trouble us as well as those of which we are not aware. Restore our life and faith by Your own command for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- 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 to 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 \div Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** Amen.

INTROIT

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

- P** *Restore us, O God;*
 - C** **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**
 - P** *Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!*
 - C** **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**
 - P** *You brought a vine out of Egypt;*
 - C** **it took deep root and filled the land.**
 - P** *Restore us, O God of hosts;*
 - C** **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**
- 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** *Restore us, O God;*
 - C** **let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

SALUTATION COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** *The Lord be with you.*
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us pray.*

All: 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. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:1–11

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

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

EPISTLE LESSON

2 Peter 3:8–14

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

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

ALLELUIA VERSE

Luke 3:4b, 6

All: Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1–8

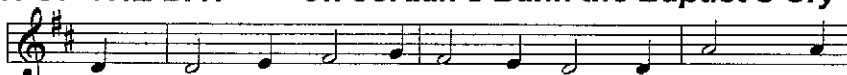
- P** *The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.* **C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**
 (lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

- P** *This is the Gospel of the Lord.* **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in; And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

"IN MEDIAS RES"

Mark 1:1-8

- I. Mark starts his Gospel using a literary technique called in medias res, which means "in the middle of things."
- II. That's how Jesus comes into the world and to us, in the middle of our everyday lives.

✠ NICENE CREED

- 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 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 worshipped 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Almighty God, we give thanks this day for calling us and the whole world to repentance and faith by Your holy prophets, by Your servant John the Baptist, and by Your own Son, whose Spirit calls, gathers, and enlightens everyone through His mighty Word and Sacraments. Grant that we and all who hear His voice remain faithful in the fellowship of Your Holy Church. Lord, in Your mercy,* **C** *hear our prayer.*
- P** *Continue to give Your blessing, power, and grace to Your Church, especially all pastors and servants You have called and given to guard, feed, and teach Your flock. Lord, in your mercy,*
- C** *hear our prayer.*
- P** *Give stability to our country, supplying all who make, administer, and judge our laws with wisdom and goodwill toward all people. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** *hear our prayer.*
- P** *Bless the schools of the Church and all centers of learning and research that those who teach would serve You honorably and that our common life be conformed to the ways of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** *hear our prayer.*
- P** *By Your Word and Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [especially . . .]. Support all who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Give Your tender care to all. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** *hear our prayer.*
- P** *Remembering those who have loved and served You who now rest from their labors, we give You thanks. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,* **C** *hear our prayer.*
- P** *Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.* **C** *Amen.*

PREFACE

- 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, 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:*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

P *O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

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.**

PAX DOMINI

P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

Solo Selection During Communion:

"Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

Communion Interlude:

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

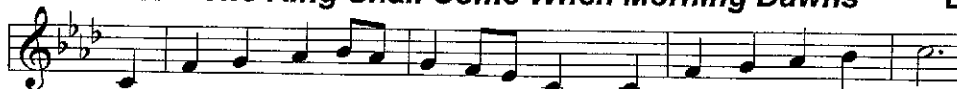
P *Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **C** Amen.*

BENEDICTION

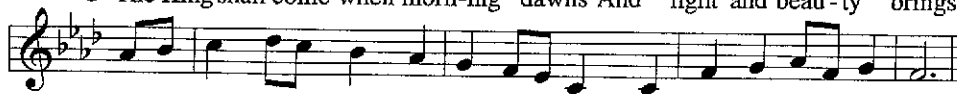
P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace. **C** Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*

LSB 348



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
 5 The Kingshall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
 But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
 And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
 The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

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 Rob Hatton, Congregation Chairman ..... 303-906-9395 / email: [roberthatton1@googlemail.com](mailto:roberthatton1@googlemail.com)

## WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this morning:

Altar Guild..... Elsie Leiker & Sharon Milliken  
 Communion Assistant..... Bill Milliken  
 Counter..... Carl Kurth  
 Organist / Music Director ..... Beth Buss  
 Special Music ..... Soloist  
 Sanitation CEO (Clean Every Object)..... Al Axford  
 Service Web Recorder..... Robert Showalter  
 Service Live Streaming..... Stuart Ruwet  
 Usher ..... Phil Vandre