

# 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 74

December 16, 2018

No. 50

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Order of Worship -9 AM

+ Service of Holy Communion +

Divine Service, Setting One (LSB)

**AS WE GATHER** – “Rejoice in the Lord always!” may seem like quite the daunting task in today’s world. Yes, there are moments of joy, but there are also moments of tragedy and devastation. It is not possible to be always joyful. But rejoicing is not a task that we have to add to our to-do list. And we are not called to rejoice in everything always. We are called to rejoice in the Lord always. The God who rejoices over us with gladness and calms us with His love brings us into a relationship with Him that is filled with rejoicing at His presence and providence.

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

“The Advent of Our King”

by George Brandon

## WELCOME

[Please fill out prayer request cards.]

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

## ♪ OPENING HYMN

*The Advent of Our King*



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.

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## INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the  $\div$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.* **G** Amen.
- P** *Alleluia! Christ is coming soon!*
- G** **He is coming soon indeed! Alleluia!**
- P** *Rejoice in the Lord always!*
- G** **For He will rejoice over us with gladness.**
- P** *Again, I say, rejoice!*
- G** **He will quiet us with His love.**
- P** *Steadfast love and faithfulness meet.*
- G** **Righteousness and peace kiss each other.**
- P** *In Christ, the blind receive their sight, the lame walk,*
- G** **the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear.**
- P** *In Christ, the dead are raised up,*
- G** **and the poor have the good news preached to them.**
- P** *Alleluia! Christ is coming soon!*
- G** **He is coming soon indeed! Alleluia!**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENES

- P** *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*
- G** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

- P** *Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*
- G** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- 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  $\div$  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **G** Amen.*

## INTROIT

Ps. 146:5-8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4

- P** *Rejoice in the Lord always;* **G** **again I will say, Rejoice.**
- P** *Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,*
- G** **whose hope is in the LORD his God,**
- P** *who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,*
- G** **who keeps faith forever;**
- P** *who executes justice for the oppressed,*
- G** **who gives food to the hungry.**
- P** *The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.*
- G** **The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**
- 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** *Rejoice in the Lord always;* **G** **again I will say, Rejoice.**

# KYRIE

**P** *In peace let us pray to the Lord.*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** *For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*



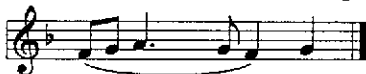
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** *For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*



**C** A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

## *This Is the Feast*



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**G** And al - so with you.

**P** *Let us pray.*

**All:** Stir up Your power, O Christ, and come, that in Your presence we may rejoice and rest in the peace that only You can give, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

**A** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**G** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE LESSON

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

**Philippians 4:4-7**

**A** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**G** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA VERSE

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 7:18-28**

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.*

**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

**P** *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

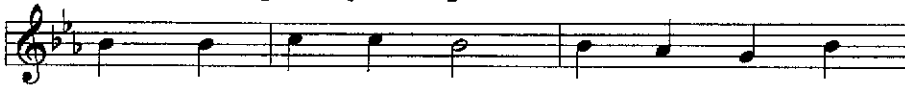
[Prayer requests will be collected at this time.]

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



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!

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### SERMON

### "STRESS FOR THE SEASON"

*Philippians 4:4-7*

- I. Christmas can be very busy and stressful for both children and adults.
- II. Mary faced the stress of the first Christmas by rejoicing in her son Jesus and in the peace He comes to bring.

### NICENE CREED

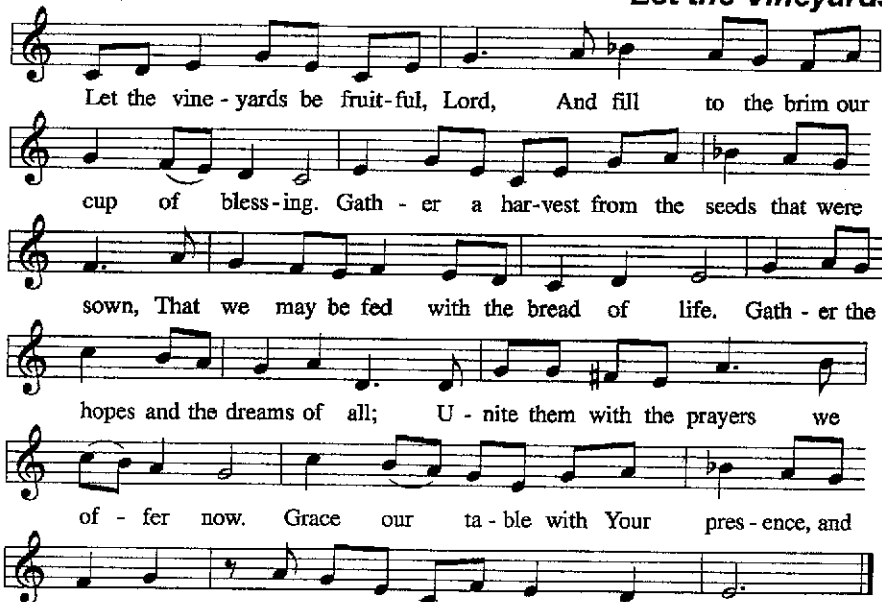
**C** I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one 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.

### OFFERING / HANDBELL SELECTION

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

## ♩ OFFERTORY

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

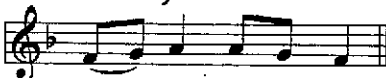
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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Dear heavenly Father, as we wait for the return of Christ, we often grow impatient. We are tempted to disdain our families, dismiss our friends, and deny our neighbors what they need. Our hearts are often far from joy, but we pray that You would teach us to rejoice in the Lord always!*
- C** **Again I will say, rejoice!**
- P** *Lord, in the midst of our rejoicing there is also sadness and struggle. Some among us are sick, injured, and recovering. [Today we pray for . . .] Provide them with healing and calm their troubled hearts. In the midst of their suffering, teach them to rejoice in the Lord always!*
- C** **Again I will say, rejoice!**
- P** *Lord, many are struggling with loneliness, especially at this time of year. Inspire Your Church to reach out in friendship and love to those who need it, that together we all rejoice in the Lord always!*
- C** **Again I will say, rejoice!**
- P** *Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your ever-present mercy.*
- C** **Amen.**

## PREFACE

- P** *The Lord be with you.*



- C** *And al - so with you.*

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

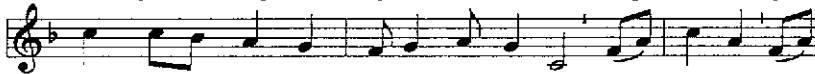


**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

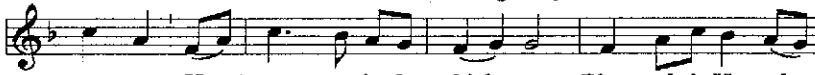
**P** *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the 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 singing:*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** *Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.* **C** Amen.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

**P** *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.* **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, 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.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us share this peace with one another.

(People greet one another saying: "Peace be with you. And also with you.")

[Remain standing]

## ♪ AGNUS DEI

## Lamb of God

**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Reminder: gluten free wafer (by holding up an index finger to the elder), and non-alcoholic wine (the white grape juice in the center) are also available.

## ♪ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

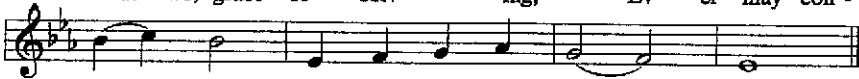
### Once He Came in Blessing

1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -  
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He  
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y  
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -  
 dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,  
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,  
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor  
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,





Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to  
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will  
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful  
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.  
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.  
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.  
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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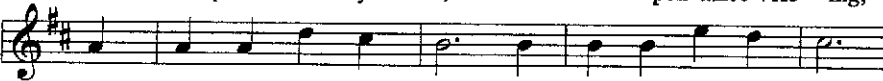
### When All the World Was Cursed



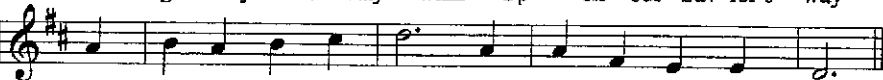
1 When all the world was cursed By Mo - ses' con - dem - na - tion,  
 2 Be - fore he yet was born, He leaped in joy - ful meet - ing,  
 3 Be - hold the Lamb of God That bears the world's trans - gres - sion,  
 4 O grant, dear Lord of love, That we re - ceive, re - joic - ing,



Saint John the Bap - tist came With words of con - so - la - tion.  
 Con - fess - ing Him as Lord Whose moth - er he was greet - ing.  
 Whose sac - ri - fice re - moves The dev - il's dread op - pres - sion.  
 The word pro - claimed by John, Our true re - pen - tance voic - ing,



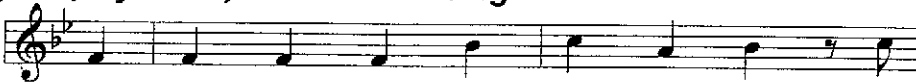
With true fore - run - ner's zeal The great - er One he named,  
 By Jor - dan's roll - ing stream, A new E - li - jah bold,  
 Be - hold the Lamb of God, Who takes a - way our sin,  
 That glad - ly we may walk Up - on our Sav - ior's way



And Him, as yet un - known, As Sav - ior he pro - claimed.  
 He tes - ti - fied of Him Of whom the proph - ets told:  
 Who for our peace and joy Will full a - tone - ment win.  
 Un - til we live with Him In His e - ter - nal day.

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### Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing



1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, A  
 2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your  
 3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In  
 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard  
 5 He on - ly will with pa - tience chide, His

cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of  
 life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when  
 rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor  
 ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in  
 rod falls gent - ly down; And all your sins He  
 ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.  
 doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.  
 cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.  
 threat - ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?  
 casts a - side In o - cean depths to drown.

6. His wisdom never plans in vain  
 Nor falters nor mistakes.  
 All that His counsels may ordain  
 A blessed ending makes.

7. Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,  
 And trust His guiding love;  
 Then like a rock your peace shall stand  
 Here and in heav'n above.

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## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

*Thank the Lord*

☩ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.  
 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.  
 He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy  
 with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

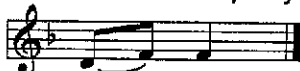
## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

☩ *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.*

☩ A - men.

## 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.*



**G** A - men.

## CLOSING HYMN

### *Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus*



Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus Born to set Thy  
Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er Born a child and



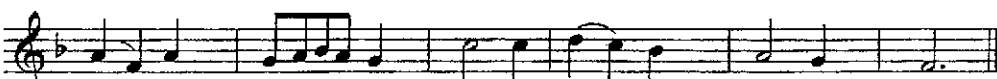
peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us  
yet a king! Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy



find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,  
gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it



Hope of all the earth Thou art, Dear de - sire of  
Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf -



ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

## **P** ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Birthday: Whitney Dettmering]

## POSTLUDE

*"Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending"*

by Jeffrey Blersch

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