

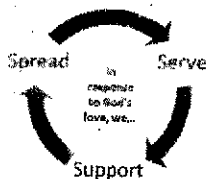
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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 75

December 15, 2019

No. 50

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Order of Worship -9:00 AM

+ Sunday School Christmas Program & Choral Cantata +

+ Service of Holy Communion +

AS WE GATHER – *Our faces tell a lot about what's going on inside. Some days we might be gloomy. But when we hear truly joyful news, it changes us from the inside, a smile adorns our face, and we join our friends in rejoicing. Isaiah prophesied abundant joy when the Messiah would come, which He did centuries ago. In our resultant joy, we can wait patiently for His return, James encourages in the Epistle: as "the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth." Though our Lord will return as judge, Isaiah promises, "He will come and save you." Now there's great news to put a smile on your face!*

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"O Come, Little Children"

by Jeffrey Blersch

WELCOME

[Please fill out prayer request cards.]

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

♯OPENING 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.

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INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES Philippians 4:4; Matthew 11:5; Isaiah 35:1; Psalm 146:2

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.* **C** **Amen.**
- P** *Rejoice in the Lord always;*
- C** **again I will say, Rejoice.**
- P** *The dead are raised up,*
- C** **and the poor have good news preached to them.**
- P** *The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;*
- C** **the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus.**
- P** *I will praise the Lord as long as I live;*
- C** **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS Isaiah 35:4, 6; James 5:8

- P** *Isaiah wrote that the coming of the Messiah would mean change as great as having "waters break forth in the wilderness."*
- C** **Help us value the water of our Baptism and the Word of God. Give us strength and faith in our ongoing troubles.**
- P** *When nothing appears to change, and our Lord's return seems too far in the distant future, James urges, "Be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."*
- C** **Help us grow in patience, especially in times of disappointment when we would have preferred our Lord to have returned yesterday.**
- P** *When our Lord returns, although He "will come with vengeance" to judge those who have opposed him, Isaiah promises, "He will come and save you."*
- C** **Forgive us, Lord, for our sins of thought, word, and deed.**
- P** *Through His entire life, from birth through death and on to resurrection, Christ Jesus paid for all your sins when He came so long ago. When He comes through Word and Sacrament today, it is to assure you that we are at peace with God. And when He returns it will be to lead us to heaven. 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. Come, Lord Jesus.**

INTROIT Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4

- P** *Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. I will hope continually and will praise You yet more and more.*
- C** **My mouth will tell of Your righteous acts, of Your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge.**
- P** *With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;*
- C** **I will remind them of Your righteousness, Yours alone.**
- P** *O God, from my youth You have taught me,*
- C** **and I still proclaim Your wondrous deeds.**
- P** *So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,*
- C** **until I proclaim Your might to another generation, Your power to all those to come.**
- 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.**

KYRIE

- P** *In peace, let us pray to the Lord.*
- C** **O Lord, Emmanuel, have mercy.**

- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
C O Lord, Wisdom from on high, have mercy.
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 O Lord, Branch of Jesse's tree, have mercy.
P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
C O Lord, Key of David, have mercy.
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Em-man-u-el, And ran-som cap-tive
 Is-ra-el, That mourns in lone-ly ex-ile here
 Un-til the Son of God ap-pear. *Refrain* Re-joice! Re-joice!
 Em-man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

All: 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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 35:1–10

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

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

EPISTLE LESSON

James 5:7–11

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

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

ALLELUIA VERSE

Matthew 11:10b

All: Alleluia. Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-15

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh 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.**

THROUGH A CHILD'S EYES

HYMN [sung by congregation, choir and children]

Oh, Come, Little Children

C: Oh, come, little children, oh, come, one and all,
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small,
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your Redeemer, your Joy and Delight.

Choir: He's born in a stable for you and for me,
Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see,
In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,
And purer than angels, the heavenly Child.

C: See Mary and Joseph with love-beaming eyes
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.

C: Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now, and praise Him as they;
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly hosts.

Children sing verse 5

NARRATION

SONG "Christmas News" Sunday School Children

NARRATION

SONG "Away in a Manger" Christ Choristers & S.S. Children

NARRATION

SCHRIPTURE RECITATION: *John 3:16* S.S. Children

SONG "Virgin Mary Had A Little Baby" S.S. Children

NARRATION

SONG "God's Son to Whom the Heavens Bow" Christ Choristers

NARRATION

SONG *"The First Noel"* with Pachelbel's Canon Christ Choristers

NARRATION

SONG *"King of Kings"* Christ Choristers

NARRATION

OFFERING / HANDBELL SELECTION *"Savior of the Nations, Come"*

♫ OFFERTORY [sung by the congregation] *"Savior of the Nations, Come"*

Savior of the nations, come
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.
 For You are the Father's Son
 Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole
 All our ills of flesh and soul.
 From the manger newborn light
 Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides;
 In this light faith now abides.
 Glory to the Father sing,
 Glory to the Son, our King,
 Glory to the Spirit be
 Now and through eternity. Amen.

♫ NICENE CREED

☞ 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

☞ *Let us pray for the Lord's mercy upon all of us and upon all people as they have need. For joy in the Lord, that we may be sustained in the time of waiting for His will and purpose to*

unfold in these latter days, for patience under trials, and for hope that endures the changes and chances of this mortal life, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For hearts that trust in the Lord at all times; for courage to confront our doubts and fears with the Word of the Lord; and for strength to fulfill our vocations of worship, witness, prayer and works of mercy:*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For those who speak God's Word to us in His name, for those who serve in the various assisting offices within the church, for those preparing for full-time church work, and for all the places where God's people are taught and learn the faith, let us pray to the Lord:*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For our bold confession of Christ in a world unfriendly to the Gospel, for compassion and kindness in words and works that we may not distract from the Gospel or become impediments to its proclamation, and for those on mission fields far and near, let us pray to the Lord:*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For the world and those entrusted with positions of leadership in government, for the service men and women who defend us against the enemies of our nation, and for those who enact and enforce the laws which protect us, let us pray to the Lord:*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For the agencies of the church through which we care for the poor and hungry, the widow and orphan, the aged and infirm, those suffering mental illness, and the sick and those suffering afflictions of mind and body [especially...], let us pray to the Lord:*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For joyful hearts, for peace in the world and peace in our lives, for faith to receive the most precious food of all in the communion of Christ's body and blood, and for the nourishment of our lives in Christ through this Holy Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord:*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *O blessed Lord, we are not worthy of Your grace and favor, and yet You continue to lavish upon us the riches of Your mercy. Hear the prayers of Your people who cry to You on behalf of themselves and all those in need. Grant to us the sufficient grace to supply all that we need for this body and this life, until that day when Christ comes again to bring us into Your eternal presence to praise Your goodness forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **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 singing:*

SANCTUS [tune: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel]

O Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

O holy, holy, holy Lord,
The God by heav'nly hosts adored,
Both heav'n and earth Your glory show.
Hosanna sing we to the Lord.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

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 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."*

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."

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 in this Sacrament You change everything in our daily life of love, and You strengthen our joyous hope to be with You in Your eternal kingdom. Hear us as we pray in Your name and as You have taught us:*

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** [tune: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel] *O Christ, the Holy Lamb of God*

O Christ, the holy Lamb of God,
Who takes away the whole world's sin,
Have mercy on us now, we pray,
And grant Your heav'nly peace within.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

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.

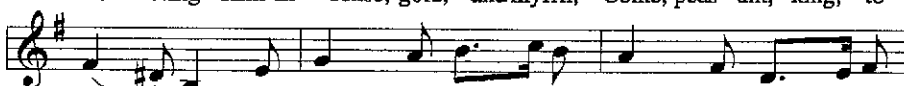
♩ **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

What Child Is This

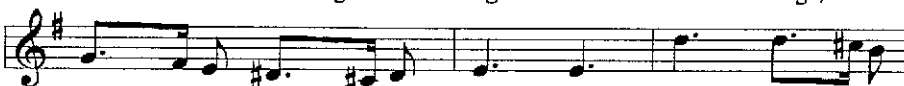
LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

The Gifts Christ Freely Gives

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LSB 602



1 The gifts Christ free - ly gives He gives to you and me
2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
3 The gifts of grace and peace From ab - so - lu - tion flow;
4 The gifts are there each day The ho - ly Word is read;



To be His Church, His bride, His cho-sen, saved and free!
 New life He gives that makes Us His and His a-lone.
 The pas-tor's words are Christ's For us to trust and know.
 God's chil-dren lis-ten, hear, Re-ceive, and they are fed.



Saints blest with these rich gifts Are chil-dren who pro-claim
 Here He for-gives our sins With wa-ter and His Word;
 For-give-ness that we need Is grant-ed to us there;
 Christ fills them with Him-self, Blest words that give them life,



That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.
 The tri-une God Him-self Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.
 The Lord of mer-cy sends Us forth in His blest care.
 Re-stor-ing and re-fresh-ing Them for this world's strife.

5. The gifts are in the feast,
 Gifts far more than we see;
 Beneath the bread and wine
 Is food from Calvary.
 The body and the blood
 Remove our ev'ry sin;
 We leave His presence in
 His peace, renewed again.

6. All glory to the One
 Who lavishes such love;
 The Triune God in love
 Assures our life above.
 His means of grace for us
 Are gifts He loves to give;
 All thanks and praise for His
 Great love by which we live!

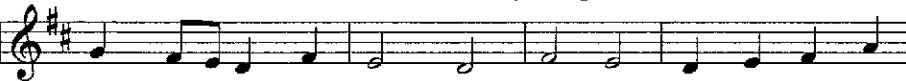
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Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

LSB 636



1 Soul, a-dorn your-self with glad-ness, Leave the
 2 Has-ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
 3 He who craves a pre-cious trea-sure Nei-ther
 4 Now in faith I hum-bly pon-der O-ver



gloom-y haunts of sad-ness, Come in-to the day-light's
 lov-ing rev-'rence greet Him. For with words of life im-
 cost nor pain will mea-sure; But the price-less gifts of
 this sur-pass-ing won-der That the bread of life is

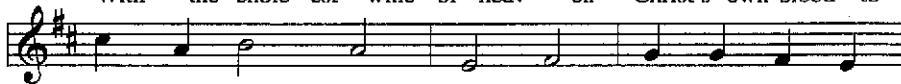


splen-dor, There with joy your prais-es ren-der.
 mor-tal He is knock-ing at your por-tal.
 heav-en God to us has free-ly giv-en.
 bound-less Though the souls it feeds are count-less:

(continued)



Bless the One whose grace un-bound - ed This a - maz - ing
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
 there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5. Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, 7. Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
 Peace beyond all understanding,
 Joy into all life expanding:
 Humbly now, I bow before You;
 Love incarnate, I adore You;
 Worthily let me receive You
 And, so favored, never leave You.</p> | <p>Lord, by love and mercy driven,
 You once left Your throne in heaven
 On the cross for me to languish
 And to die in bitter anguish,
 To forego all joy and gladness
 And to shed Your blood in sadness.
 By this blood redeemed and living,
 Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.</p> |
| <p>6. Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
 Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
 Jesus, joy of my desiring,
 Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
 At Your feet I cry, my maker,
 Let me be a fit partaker
 Of this blessed food from heaven,
 For our good, Your glory, given.</p> | <p>8. Jesus, Bread of Life, I pray You,
 Let me gladly here obey You.
 By Your love I am invited,
 Be Your love with love requited;
 By this Supper let me measure,
 Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
 Through the gift of grace You give me
 As Your guest in heav'n receive me.</p> |

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POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE [tune: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel]

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Lord, let Your servant go in peace,
 Your Word fulfilled within my sight.
 Salvation comes for all to see.
 For Israel, glory: Gentiles, light.
 <i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel!</i></p> | <p>2. All glory to the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, with them one,
 As was in the beginning, now,
 And as the end-less ages run.
 <i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 Shall come to thee, O Israel! Amen.</i></p> |
|---|--|

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P 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 in 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.

G Amen.

BENEDICTION

P Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P The blessing of God Almighty—the Father who created us, the \dagger Son who saved us and shall return to welcome us home, and the Holy Spirit who creates and nourishes the faith that Jesus is the Lord—be with you now and forever. **G** 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 King shall 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 *“Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”* by Jeffrey Blersch

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THE LUTHERAN HOUR MESSAGE KOA 850 AM: Sunday @ 6:00 am

December 22: *“Christmas”*; Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker
(Matthew 1:18-25)