

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent



Jesus is Coming! Repent!



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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

# "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1

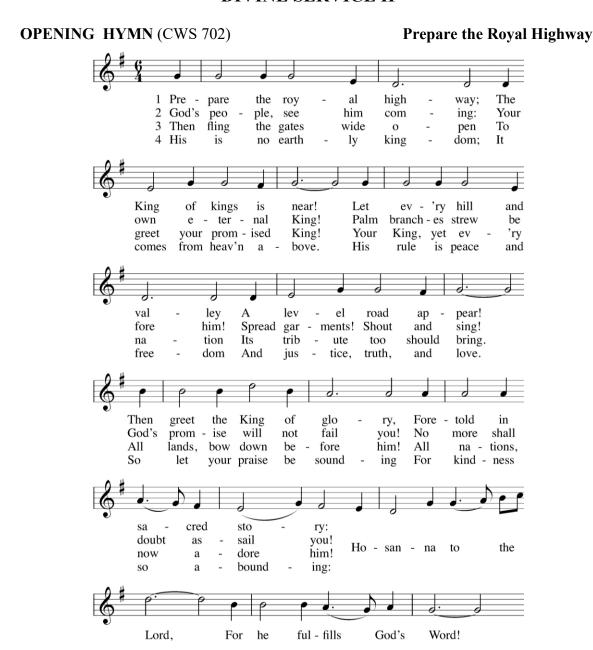


Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament. Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.

# **Lord of Love Lutheran Church**

## **December 10, 2023**

## **DIVINE SERVICE II**



#### INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## **CONFESSION**

**M:** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

#### **ABSOLUTION**

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

# LORD, HAVE MERCY

Mark 10:47

**Kyrie** 

**M:** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

**M:** For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

**M:** For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

- **M:** We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.
- C: We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.
- **M:** We hear his call to repent.
- C: We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.
- M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.
- C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Two Advent candles are lit.

#### THE WORD

#### **SALUTATION**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call out to her.

Her warfare really is over. Her guilt is fully paid for.

Yes, she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice is calling out:

In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD.

In the wasteland make a level highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup> Every valley will be raised up,

and every mountain and hill will be made low.

The rugged ground will become level,

and the rough places will become a plain.

<sup>5</sup> Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed,

and all flesh together will see it. Yes, the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

<sup>6</sup> A voice was saying, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry out?"

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like a wildflower in the countryside.

Grass withers, flowers fade, when the breath of the LORD blows on them. Yes, the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> Grass withers, flowers fade, but the Word of our God endures forever.

<sup>9</sup> Get up on a high mountain, O Zion, you herald of good news.

Lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, you herald of good news.

Lift it up! Do not be afraid! Say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!"

<sup>10</sup> Look, God the LORD will come with strength,

and his arm is ruling for him. Look, his reward is with him.

The result of his work is in front of him. <sup>11</sup> Like a shepherd he will care for his flock. With his arm he will gather the lambs. He will lift them up on his lap.

He will gently lead the nursing mothers.

**CHOIR ANTHEM** 

The Coming of the Lord

SECOND LESSON 2 Peter 3:8-14

<sup>8</sup> But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: For the Lord, one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow to do what he promised, as some consider slowness. Instead, he is patient for your sakes, not wanting anyone to perish, but all to come to repentance.

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. On that day the heavens will pass away with a roar, the elements will be dissolved as they burn with great heat, and the earth and what was done on it will be burned up. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, since all these things will be destroyed, what kind of people ought you to be, living in holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup> as you look forward to and hasten the coming of the day of God? That day will cause the heavens to be set on fire and destroyed, and the elements to melt as they burn with great heat. <sup>13</sup> But according to his promise we look forward to new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, dear friends, as you look forward to these things, make every effort to be found in peace, spotless and blameless in his sight.

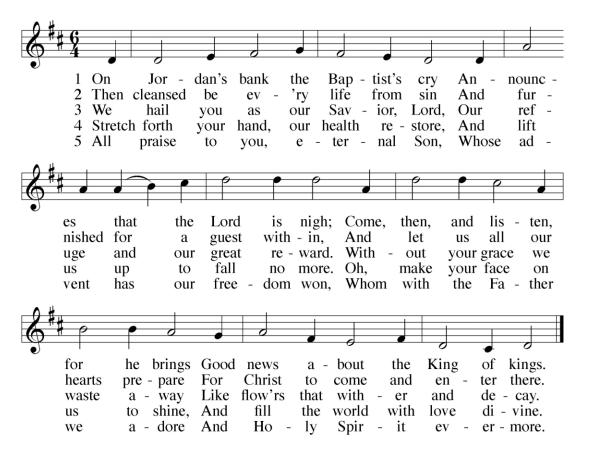
#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**M:** Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. And all people will see God's salvation. Alleluia.



## **HYMN OF THE DAY** (CW 16)

## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

SERMON Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup> This is how it is written in the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare the way for you.

<sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord.

Make his paths straight."

<sup>4</sup> John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him. They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. <sup>6</sup> John was clothed in camel's hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. He ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He preached, "One more powerful than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals! <sup>8</sup> I baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

There's that "Voice" Again! Do You Hear It, Too?



#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,

eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made,

of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,

and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

BE SEATED

#### **OFFERING**

During the gathering of the thank-offering, please sign and pass the Friendship Register. Thank you!

#### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS** (8:00 a.m.)

This morning we welcome the Nitz family into membership.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious God, you sent John the Baptist to herald the coming Messiah and proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. In these latter days, you send pastors to proclaim the same repentance for the forgiveness of sins, and through them lead your people to trust in your salvation. Look with kindness upon all pastors, that they may be diligent and faithful heralds of your beloved Son. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

God of all comfort, your Word alone endures forever. The nations of the world come and go before you, even kings and rulers are like grass before your breath. Preserve us from placing our trust in princes and mortal men. Give us rulers who will rule after your good pleasure, keeping order and protecting life, that we may live peaceably in godly quietness and honesty. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Lord, you invite us again to your table to receive the medicine of immortality in the body and blood of Christ, your Son. May we receive this Sacrament rightly, that with faith strengthened and sins forgiven our lives may be lived in holiness and godliness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

All these things and whatever else you know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.** 

#### THE SACRAMENT

#### **PREFACE**

The Lord be with you.

and join their glorious song:

M:

And also with you. C: M: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them up to the Lord. **M**: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is good and right so to do. C: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you M: thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who comes with his Father to make his home in human hearts, working repentance and faith by his Holy Spirit until he comes again. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD John 1:29



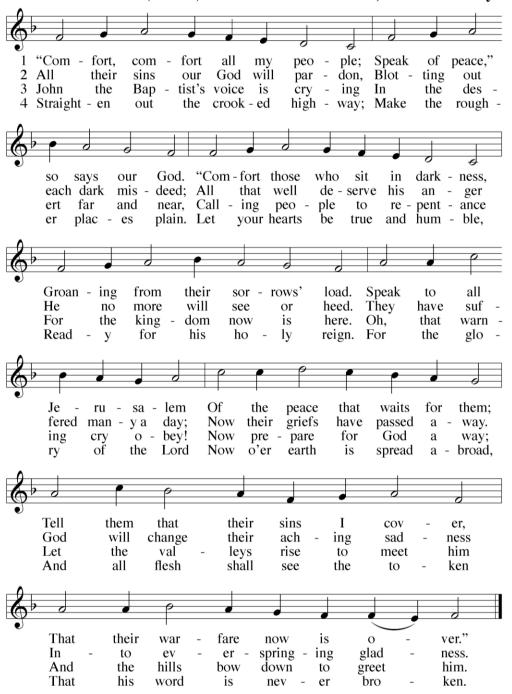
BE SEATED

### **DISTRIBUTION**

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with our pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMN** (CW 11)

## Comfort, Comfort All My People



Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Freu dich sehr (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMN** (CW 26)

## Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

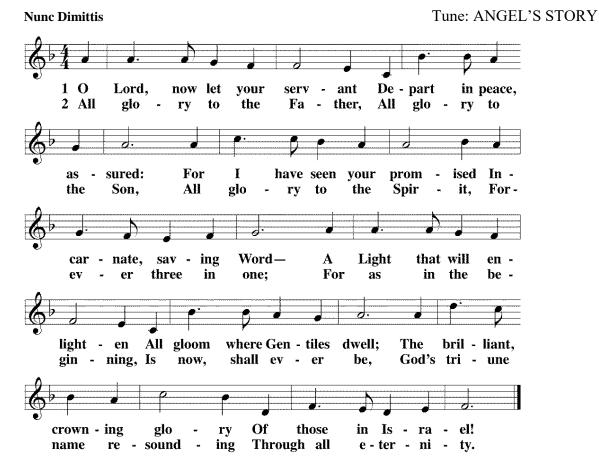


Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, abr., alt.

Tune: SIEH, HIER BIN ICH, EHRENKÖNIG (87 87 87) Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698.

#### SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32



M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

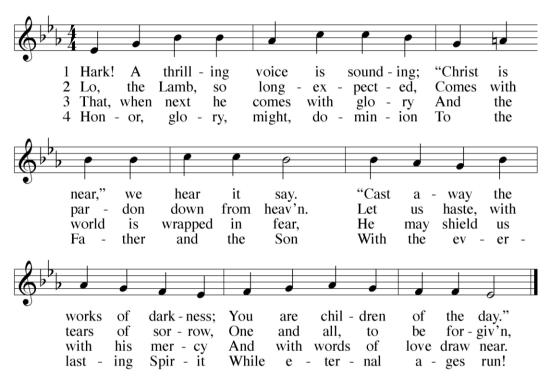
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

#### C: Amen.

BE SEATED

## **CLOSING HYMN** (CW 15)

## Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding



Text: Latin hymn, c. 6th century, abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.

Tune: MERTON (87 87) William H. Monk, 1823–89.

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# **Personal Prayers for Worship**

#### **Before Communion:**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

#### **After Communion:**

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

**Gluten Free communion wafers:** Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar.

## **Bible Studies this week:**

Sunday 9:15 am: "Angels are Making Their Rounds", sanctuary

Tuesday 9:00 am: Gospel of John, downstairs

Wednesday evening Bible study resumes in January.

Friday 6:00 am (Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45): Matthew

DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)

Sunday December 10: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen class and Sunday school Peace Lutheran 8<sup>th</sup> grade students wrapping gifts between services.

WELS Connection

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Pianist: Kristin Huebner
- Choir Director: Elaine Wilson
- Councilman/elder: 8:00 Dave Olson, 10:30 Steve Kalscheuer
- Ushers 8:00: Sef Fox, Steven Fox, Ben Olson and Dave Olson
- Ushers 10:30: Joshua Hodkiewicz and volunteer
- Counters: Donna Cotter and Sharon Kalscheuer
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer, Kristin Huebner and Sophia Strong
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: Paul & Cindy Crary

## Sunday December 17: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen class and Sunday school

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Councilman: 8:00 Ryan Jaeger, 10:30 Mitch Myhre
- Ushers 8:00: Ryan Jaeger and Aaron Oughton
- Ushers 10:30: The Holzman Family
- Counters: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer, Kristin Huebner and Sophia Strong
- A/V & Recording: RaeLyn Parker
- Refreshments: Volunteers needed

**Happy Birthday:** We wish God's blessings to Cindy Nelson (12/13) and Barb Schade (12/15) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

**Anniversary:** We wish God's blessings to Mark & Nettie Beyer (12/12) who celebrate their anniversary this Tuesday.

**In Our Prayers:** Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Peg Schroeder and Steve Tobison who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

#### Offerings November 26 - 30:

• General Fund: \$6,899

• Mortgage Reduction: \$10

Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$8,200

Electronic Giving: You can give contributions to church through the Vanco Mobile app. Download the free app today in the Google Play store or the Apple App store. Find the church by searching for Lord of Love Lutheran Church in DeForest, or by its invite code, D4K54K.

(Nov. 26-30: In the totals listed above, \$3,174 was given to the general fund through Vanco.)

## Looking ahead:

- **December 10:** Christmas Gift Wrapping, between services by Peace Lutheran students.
- December 10: WELS Wind Ensemble Christmas Concert, Fall River High School, 2 pm
- December 11: Ladies Christmas Dinner Outing, 6:00 pm Rodeside Grill, Windsor
- Tuesday December 12: Christmas in the Dells Dinner Show, 2:00 pm. Lunch 1:15 pm. Leave church parking lot at 12:00 noon. <u>Arrive to church by 11:50 am.</u>
- December 16: Children's Christmas service practice, 9 10 am
- December 20: Children's Christmas Service, 6:30 pm
- December 24: 4th Sunday in Advent worship times, 8:00 & 10:30 am
- December 24: Christmas Eve Worship, 6:30 pm
- December 25: Christmas Day Worship, 9:00 am
- December 31: Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 am. No evening worship service.
- January 4, 2024: Thoroughly Lutheran Class begins, Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up? At Peace Lutheran Church, Sun Prairie. Thursdays at 6:30 pm starting Jan. 4.