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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 7, 2025

## WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S HOLY COMMUNION

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For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?
- Are you sorry for your sin?
- Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?
- Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

## AS WE GATHER

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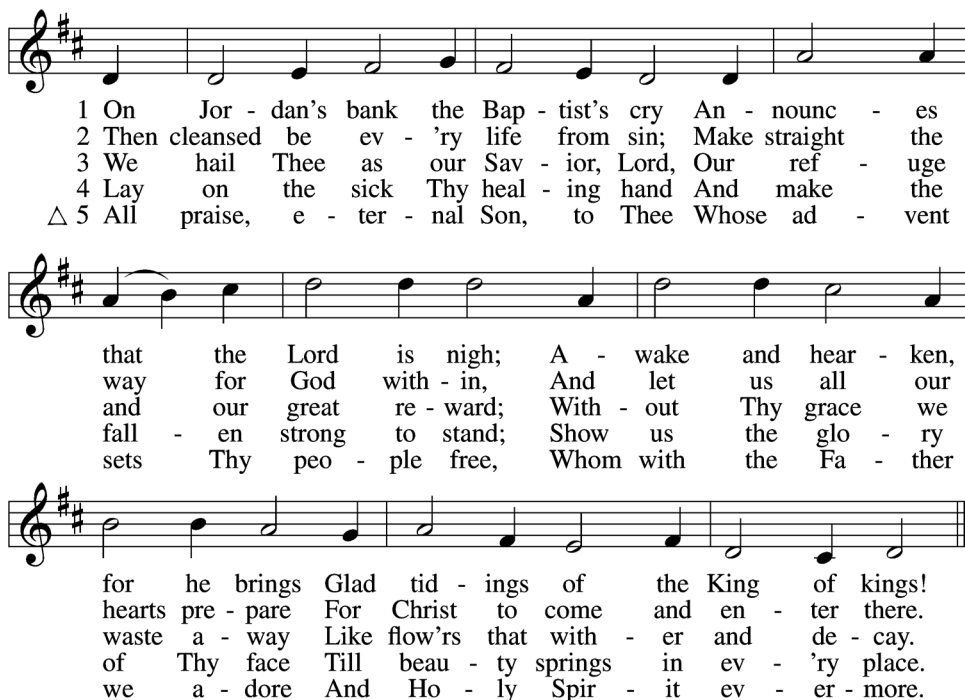
The problem with good works is not *that* we should do them but *why*. Our works reflect what it is we believe and hold dear. Works are the fruit of repentance and faith and do not add to what Christ has done in His mighty work of redemption. The call to bear the good fruit of repentance is not to work harder to be saved but to manifest in our everyday lives that we are saved, that we belong to the Lord, and that He has accomplished all things for our salvation. John faced a generation impressed with their works and empty of faith in God's mercy. We should know that doing works is not a choice. Hearts of faith will produce the good fruits of repentance. This is the calling of Christians and the mark of the work of the Spirit in our lives.

## THE PRELUDE

## THE TOLLING OF THE BELL & WELCOME

## INVOCATION HYMN

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



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.

## BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord, as we begin the season of Advent, let this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. As the prophet Isaiah says, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined."

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

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your Spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the true light who comes into the world to enlighten all people, bless us as we light the **SECOND** candle of this wreath in preparation for Your coming, and enkindle in our hearts the fire of Your love that we may receive You with joy and gladness and evermore remain steadfast in the faith; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** The Lord Almighty, the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless this wreath for use in His Church throughout this holy season of Advent.

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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### EXHORTATION

*Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,


**C** and Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

*Kneel | Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**C** O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

## ABSOLUTION

- 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 unto 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  Son and of the Holy Ghost.

**C** Amen.

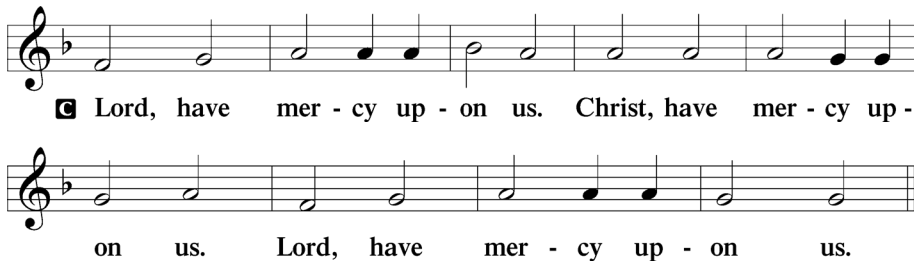
*Stand*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

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### KYRIE

*Mark 10:47*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Let us pray.

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.



**C** A - men.

**L** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 11.

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.  
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.  
They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

- L** Give the king your justice, O God,  
and your righteousness to the royal son!
- C** **May he judge your people with righteousness,  
and your poor with justice!**
- L** Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,  
and the hills, in righteousness!
- C** **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
give deliverance to the children of the needy,  
and crush the oppressor!**
- L** May they fear you while the sun endures,  
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!
- C** **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
like showers that water the earth!**
- L** In his days may the righteous flourish,  
and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

## EPISTLE

*Romans 15:4–13*

- A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 15.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name."

And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*John 6:68*



## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 3:1–12*

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



In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the



trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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



*Sit*

## SERMON HYMN

## 359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man  
sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have  
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er  
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -  
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness  
sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the  
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to  
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and  
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright  
cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.  
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.  
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

*Stand*

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 men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father;  
and He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
The Lord and Giver of Life,  
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spake 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** 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, [*especially* . . .]. 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.**

Sit

## OFFERING



### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Use this QR Code to give a one-time or recurring donation to the fund of your choice, by credit/debit card, or checking account

ANTHEM | 10:45AM

### LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

*Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of Glory waits.  
The King of Kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is near.*

Stand

## OFFERTORY

*Psalm 51:10-12*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

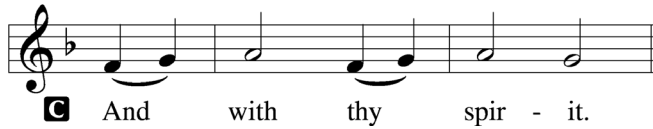
# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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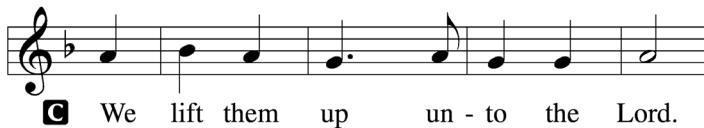
## PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

**P** The Lord be with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



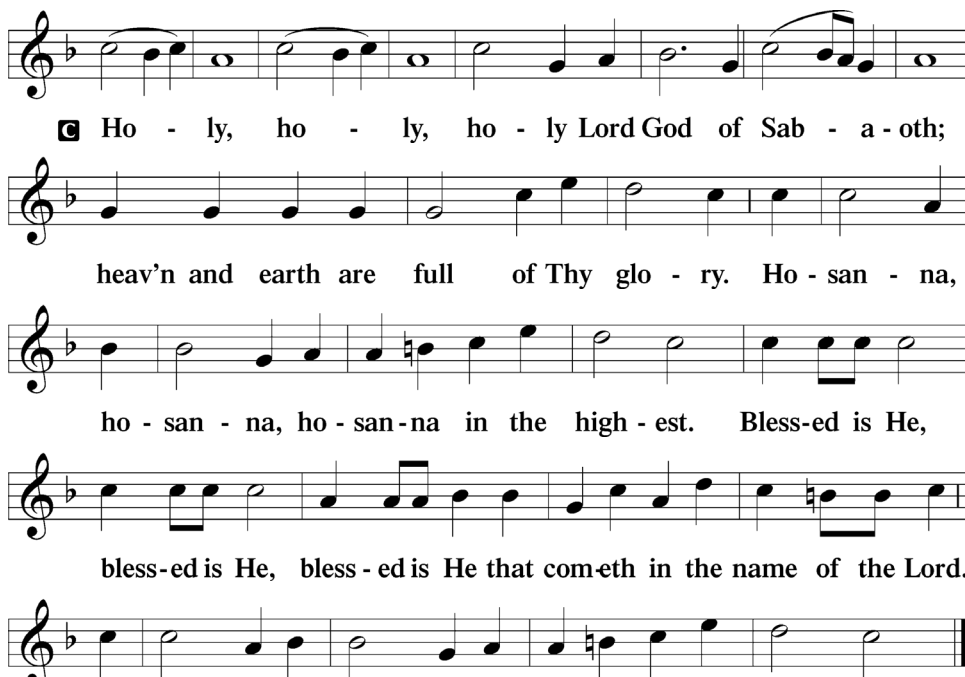
**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



**P** It is truly meet, 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:

## SANCTUS

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

- P** Lord, 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.

## 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 brake it and gave it to His disciples saying "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

After the same manner also, He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My Blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

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



*The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*

## AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.



1 "Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace," thus  
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each  
 3 Hark, the her - ald's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert  
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing  
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no  
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the  
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem  
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,  
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!  
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her  
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her  
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys  
 Now o'er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver."  
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.  
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.







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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## THE DISMISSAL

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.




**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## 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 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.



**C** A - men.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## BENEDICAMUS

**A** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from  
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y  
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.  
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. Ron Weidler, Homilist

Rev. Mark Stapleton, Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

The Cantata Choir of St. John's | 10:45am

Lynne Braun, Lector | 8:00am

Sue Kunz, Lector | 10:45am

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God in honor of Marilyn Strombom for her birthday on December 8 from Amy Strombom.

## THE LUTHERAN GLOBAL HOUR

Is global and proclaims “The Truth Unchanging” to a world in desperate need of Jesus. People around the world experience the Gospel through LHM programs, broadcasts, services and materials approximately 275 million times each week. Nearly 300 staff members on the ground in more than 35 locations allow LHM to share the Gospel with people in more than 60 countries - often places where this message is restricted by governments and authorities and no other Christian organizations are present. Our own member Kirk Farney is a director and treasurer of LHM’s mission of bringing Christ to the nations and the nations to the church. Thank you, Kirk.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS SERVICE**

Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7PM

**CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS**

Sunday, Dec. 14, 7PM

**ADVENT MIDWEEK VESPERS SERVICE**

Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7PM

**CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 4:30PM

**CHORAL PRELUDE**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 10PM

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 10:30PM

*Featuring the Cantata Choir & The Royal String Quartet*

**CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

Thursday, Dec. 25, 10AM



**THE TOWER CHORALE** presents  
**THE HARMONY OF HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

**Patrick Godon**  
Music Director

**Saturday, December 6**  
4:00 pm

**Sunday, December 7**  
4:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church  
505 S. Park Road  
La Grange, IL

Adult \$25  
Senior \$22  
Student \$15  
Child 10 and under FREE

 **THE TOWER CHORALE**  
40th ANNIVERSARY SEASON

[TOWERCHORALE.ORG](http://TOWERCHORALE.ORG)

 **ILLINOIS ARTS COUNCIL**

A large, ornate snow globe is the central visual element. Inside the globe is a small, lit Christmas tree with red and white ornaments. The globe sits on a decorative, ornate base with a keyhole and a red banner with musical notes. The background is a blue sky with white clouds and falling snow.



*A Christmas Festival of*  
**NINE LESSONS  
AND CAROLS**

**Sunday, December 14  
7:00pm**

The Cantata Choir of St. John's  
Jubilation Ringers

Dana Shinneman, Piano

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music

St. John's Lutheran Church & School  
505 S. Park Road, LaGrange, IL 60525  
708-354-1690 Ext. 222

Reception to follow  
Free-will offering  
Plenty of free parking



# Bible Scavenger Hunt

## FOR ADVENT

Prepare for Christmas with this Bible-based Advent activity.  
Each day in December, look up the answer to one question.



**1** What will God's Son be called?  
(Isaiah 7:14)

**2** Where will Jesus reign?  
(Isaiah 9:7)

**3** Where will Jesus be born?  
(Micah 5:2)

**4** How many generations are between Abraham and the Christ?  
(Matthew 1:17)

**5** Who tells Mary she is having a baby?  
(Luke 1:26-31)

**6** Which relative of Mary is also having a baby?  
(Luke 1:41)

**7** What does Mary say that God has done for her?  
(Luke 1:49)

**8** Until his son John the Baptist is born, what can Zechariah not do?  
(Luke 1:20, 64)

**9** What does Jesus' name mean?  
(Matthew 1:21)

**10** Who issues the decree about a census?  
(Luke 2:1)

**11** From where do Joseph and Mary start their journey to Bethlehem?  
(Luke 2:4)

**12** What does Mary use to wrap up baby Jesus?  
(Luke 2:7)

**13** What serves as Jesus' first bed?  
(Luke 2:7)

**14** Who tells the shepherds the good news about Jesus' birth?  
(Luke 2:8-12)

**15** When the shepherds tell others about Jesus, how do people react?  
(Luke 2:8-12)

**16** On what day is Jesus presented in the temple?  
(Luke 2:21)

**17** From what direction do the wise men (or Magi) come to worship Jesus?  
(Matthew 2:1-2)

**18** Who is upset to hear about a newborn King?  
(Matthew 2:3)

**19** What three gifts does Jesus receive from the wise men?  
(Matthew 2:11)

**20** Where does Joseph flee with his family for safety?  
(Matthew 2:14)

**21** When does Jesus' family return to Israel?  
(Matthew 2:19-21)

**22** In what district does Jesus grow up?  
(Matthew 2:22)

**23** What free gift does God give us through Jesus, his Son?  
(1 John 5:11)

**24** Where do all our gifts come from?  
(James 1:17)

**25** How should we respond to our gifts?  
(2 Corinthians 9:15)

Answers: 1. Immanuel 2. On David's throne 3. Bethlehem 4. 42 5. They are amazed or in wonder 6. Elizabeth 7. Great things 8. Speak 9. He will save his people from their sins 10. Caesar Augustus 11. Nazareth, in Galilee 12. Crib, or swaddling clothes 13. A manger 14. An angel of the Lord 15. They are amazed or in wonder 16. The eighth 17. The east 18. Herod 19. Gold, frankincense and myrror 20. Egypt 21. After Herod dies 22. Galilee 23. Eternal life 24. From above, from the Father of rights 25. Give thanks to God

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[www.sjlagrange.com](http://www.sjlagrange.com)

708-354-1690

