

Second Week in Advent

Worship on Wednesday - Vespers

December 8, 2021 7:00 p.m.



The voice of one crying
out in the wilderness. Prepare
the way of the Lord, make
his paths straight.

Luke 3:4



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL.'



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

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THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

You are invited to use the yellow Prayer Cards for prayer requests. Please hand this card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

** Please turn off cellphones **

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INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

L In the name of the Father and of the
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. *Matthew 28:19b*

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath - The
Second Candle: The Bethlehem Candle*

L As we light the second candle on our Advent wreath, the Bethlehem candle, we remember how God chose the little town of Bethlehem to be the birthplace of our Savior, fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy and making great what was small.

C We give you thanks, our heavenly Father, that You exalt the humble and bring down the proud. Grant that as we travel once more to Bethlehem to greet our Savior and King, we may be humbled in His presence and blessed to serve Him well; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[L] Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

[C] Merciful God, we confess to You the darkness of our thoughts, words, and deeds shrouded by sin and fear. We cannot free ourselves, and so we come to You asking You to shed Your light of mercy and grace on us that we may know and receive Your forgiveness, light, and life. Amen.

[L] Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new

life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L 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 Amen.

Opening Hymn

LSB 349 sts. 1-4

“Hark the Glad Sound”



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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Sit

READINGS

Old Testament Reading *Psalms 14:7*

7 Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

Philippians 1:2-11

2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you

will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

7 It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. 8 God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, 10 so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ – to the glory and praise of God.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18-23

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

18 John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, 19 he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

20 When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?'"

21 At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. 22 So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. 23 Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

[L] Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

[C] This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord is Our Righteousness.

[L] In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.

[C] This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord is Our Righteousness.

[L] Glory be to the Father and to✠ the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

[C] This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord is Our Righteousness.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 347 sts. 1-4

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”



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.

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Homily

“Advent Awaited” Pastor Tom Rhodes

OFFERING – In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God’s abundant provision to you, please use the offering plates in the back as you enter or exit. (This is just as it says: an offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!)

Stand

ANTIPHON

L Let my prayer rise before You as
incense,

C and the lifting up of my hands as
the evening sacrifice.

KYRIE (spoken in unison)

L **C** Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

L 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.**

PRAYERS

Prayer of the Church

☐ P O Lord, hear my prayer.

☐ C And let my cry come to You.

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

Each prayer petition closes with:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and

quietness; through Jesus Christ,
Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION 2 Corinthians 13:14

L The peace of our Lord ✠ Jesus
Christ and the love of God and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be
with us all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

LSB 936 sts. 1-3

“Sing Praise to the God of Israel”



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,
oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,



Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.

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