

Third Sunday in Advent
December 12, 2021 10:30 a.m. Service



Third Sunday in Advent

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'



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'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'

Rev. Thomas A. Rhodes, Pastor

PO Box 5 • 600 East Aldrich Road • Bolivar, MO 65613

Phone: 417-326-5506 • www.zionlutheranbolivar.org

zionbolivar@windstream.net

Administrative Assistant – Sonya Gorman



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

** Please turn off cellphones **

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Divine Service – Setting Two

December 12, 2021 10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements

+ INVOCATION +

LSB 167

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

P We begin in the name into which we are baptized; In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

Lighting the Advent Wreath

P As we light the third candle of our Advent wreath - the shepherds' candle - we are reminded of the joy that the shepherds experienced as they worshiped at the manger.

C We rejoice too.

P And we pray:

C Come, Lord Jesus, into our hearts, into our church, and into our world. Amen.

Opening Hymn

LSB 331 sts. 1-6

“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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Stand

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION + *LSB 167*

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for self-examination and confession to God. Reflect on His Word and consider your life according to the Ten Commandments: This and

whatever comes to mind, confess now, and receive God's total absolution.)

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C 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 God be merciful to you and strengthen
your faith. *LSB 292*

C Amen.

P Do you believe that my forgiveness is
God's forgiveness?

C Yes. *LSB 293*

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

P Almighty God in His *LSB 167*
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
✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD + *LSB 168*

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

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

C Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

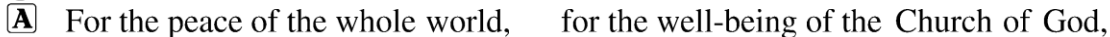
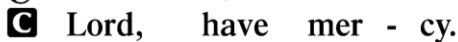
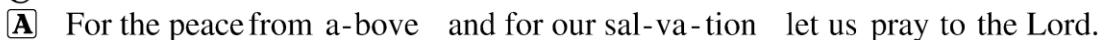
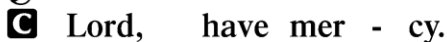
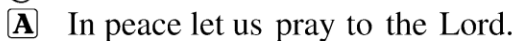
P who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

C who executes justice for the oppressed, who give food to the hungry.

P The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

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

LSB 168

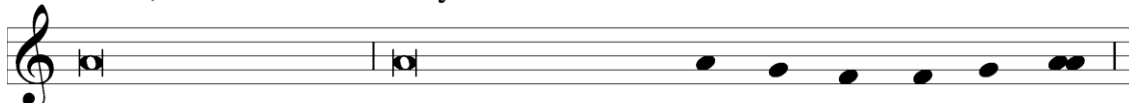




and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



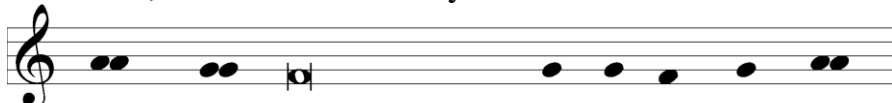
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

(During Advent, the *Hymn of Praise* is omitted) *LSB 170*

Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 172*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. 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.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

14 Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel!
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
Daughter Jerusalem!

15 The LORD has taken away your
punishment, he has turned back your enemy.

The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.
16 On that day they will say to Jerusalem, “Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp.

17 The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.”

18 “I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals, which is a burden and reproach for you.

19 At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honor in every land where they have suffered shame.

20 At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,” says the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual *Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.*

A C Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

24 For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. 25 Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own.

26 Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, 28 so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not

to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn of Praise

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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Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



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

The image shows two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?' and the second staff contains the melody for 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.' Both staves end with a double bar line.

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18-28

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of music in G major (one sharp). The melody for 'Glo - ry to You, O Lord.' is written on the staff, ending with a double bar line.

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.”

24 After John's messengers left, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? 25 If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear expensive clothes and indulge in luxury are in palaces. 26 But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 27 This is the one about whom it is written: "'I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' 28 I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

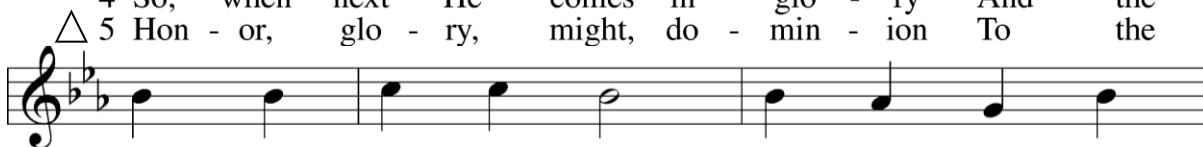
Hymn of the Day

LSB 345 sts. 1-5

“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

“Advent Expectations”

Pastor Tom Rhodes

Stand

Apostles’ Creed

LSB 175

**☐ ☐ I believe in God, the Father
Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our
Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from
the dead.**

He ascended into heaven

**and sits at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church *LSB 175*

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

Brief silence

P God, our Father, You have given exceedingly great promises and those expectations have been fully met in Your Son, our savior Jesus Christ. Give us now Your Spirit to also see You in the person of Your Son, knowing that He and none other is the One who came to bear our sins and be our Savior. Encourage us in true faith and fill us with joy, knowing He will come again to make all things new. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father in heaven, send laborers into the harvest – pastors, missionaries, teachers and other servants of the Word – to declare Your Law and proclaim Your saving Gospel in Christ Jesus, so that in

Your name more people would know the fulfilment of our need for a savior has come to the manger and to the cross. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father in heaven, You graciously rule Your people even as Your strong arm keeps evil at bay through right governance in this world. Bless and guide all who are in authority to rule justly. Sustain the faith of all who suffer mockery, persecution and death for the name of Christ, and keep us, with them, in true faith in Your Kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Kind Father, Your Son gave bread to the hungry, sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf; He made the lame to walk and cleansed lepers; He raised the dead and preached Good News to the poor. Help again Your suffering people – the hungry, the poor and unemployed, the sick, the dying, the grieving and all who are anxious of heart especially those on our prayer list and cards. Graciously give them all that they need according to Your kind will for their well-being, and quiet their fears with Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, soften the hearts of those who reject Your Word, and renew those whose faith is faltering. Open our ears to Your call of repentance and to Your promise of mercy. Grant us to come to Your table in true faith, gladly receiving Christ's body and blood and the forgiveness He promises. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father in heaven, keep far from us Satan and all his wickedness and lies. In our last hour, bring us to Yourself in peace and safety. Grant that in this day and the coming week, Your Spirit alone would guide us in safety and godliness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

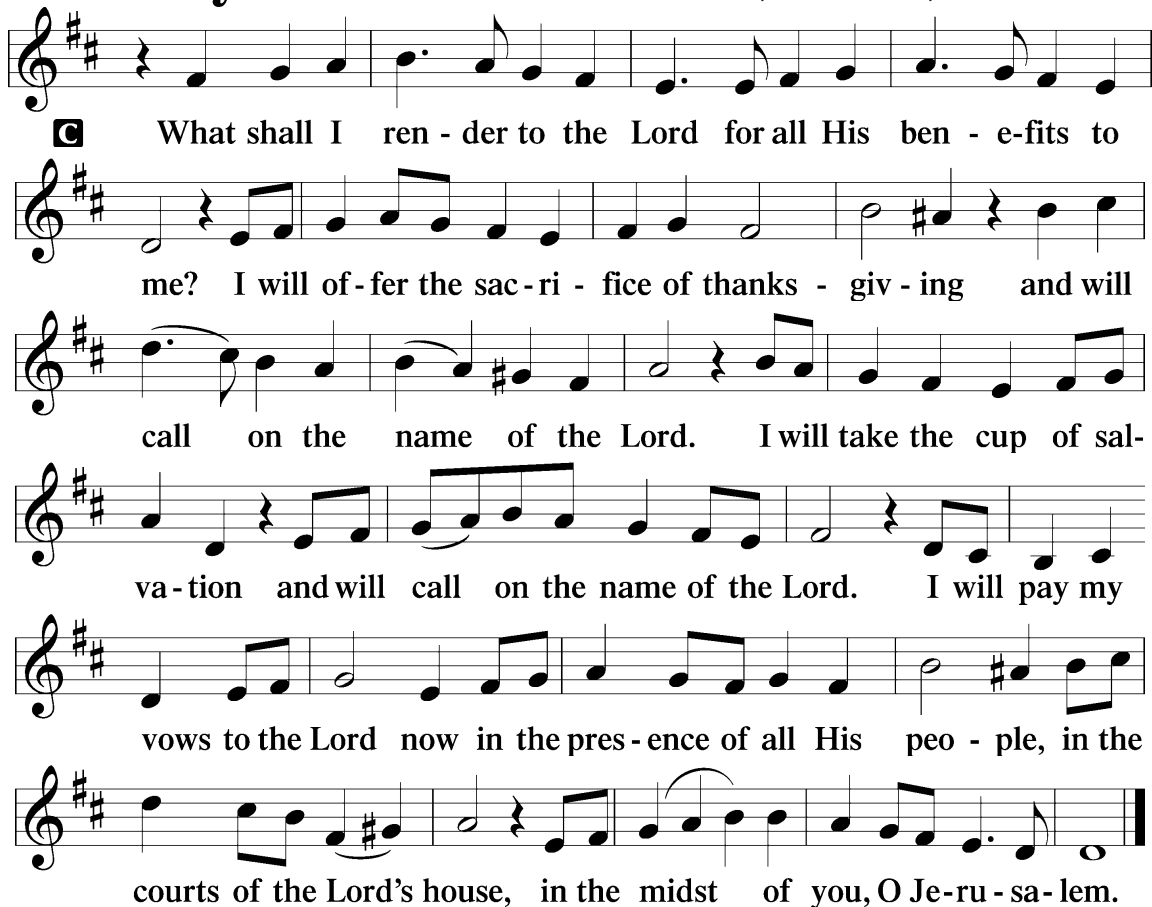
C Amen.

Offering

LSB 176

In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plate 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!)

Offertory *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19; LSB 176*



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 179*

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.

Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26, LSB 183*

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The
Lord make His face shine on you and be

gracious to you. The Lord look upon you
with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit

Closing Hymn

LSB 803 sts. 1-3

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!

2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re-flect Thy rays,

△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.

Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.

Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap-py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.

Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,

Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.

Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.

Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

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