

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

SATURDAY, November 26, 2022 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, November 27, 2022 8:30 AM

**REV. MATTHEW CLARK**

Senior Pastor

**REV. MATTHEW KOBS**

Assistant Pastor

**GABE MAICHEL**

Director of Music

**MEGAN ENDERLE**

Administrative Assistant

**PAMELA FOX**

Office Manager

**VICAR JOHN GURUNG**

Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology

**GAGAN GURUNG**

Nepali Evangelist

**CRAIG MATTES**

Communications Coordinator

**KATHY THIES**

Housekeeper & Youth Ministry

**GEORGE LLUKA**

Maintenance Technician

**BARBARA HARTUNG**

Parish Nurse

**CLAUDIA SEIFERT**

Parish Librarian



Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Word of Life Lutheran School

LOVED BY CHRIST

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE

WEEKEND WORSHIP TIMES

5:00 pm Saturday Worship

8:30 am Sunday Worship

9:45 am Sunday School and Bible Class

11:00 am Sunday Worship (Contemporary Music)

# FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

November 26 & 27, 2022

5:00 PM & 8:30 AM

## AS WE GATHER

“In God We Trust” is a familiar statement. It has been the official motto of the United States of America since 1956 and has appeared on American coins dating back to 1864. As God’s people, we trust that God will keep His promises. Centuries ago, the psalmist confidently stated, “In God I trust; I shall not be afraid” (Psalm 56:11). Today we begin a new Church Year—another year of God’s grace. We can celebrate that God has brought us to this time and place and together can look trustingly to blessings and surprises yet to come.

**PRELUDE (5:00 PM)**

*Organ*

**PRELUDE (8:30 AM) SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST**

*Bell Choir*

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN: JESUS CAME, THE HEAVENS ADORING**

*LSB 353*

*(Please Stand)*

**LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE** *John 8:12; John 1:5*

**P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,  
**C** the light no darkness can overcome.

**P** Let Your light scatter the darkness  
**C** and illumine Your church.

**HYMN: WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE** *The Candle of Hope*

*OAAR 172 v. 1*

I We light the Ad - vent can - dle And wait for Christ to  
come. With hope, we trust the prom - ise That  
He will bring us home. Our hope is in our  
Sav - ior Who wins for us God's fa - vor. We  
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!

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INVOCATION *Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**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 us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**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** Almighty God in His 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.

(or)

**A** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

ADVENT VERSE: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

LSB 357 v. 1 & 2



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d' rest



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.

*Refrain*



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



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

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*(Please Be Seated)*

✠ **WORD** ✠

## OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 2:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>It shall come to pass in the latter days  
that the mountain of the house of the LORD  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be lifted up above the hills;  
and all the nations shall flow to it,

<sup>3</sup>and many peoples shall come, and say:  
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the house of the God of Jacob,  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go the law,  
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup>He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;  
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war anymore.

<sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the LORD.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE *Romans 13:8–14*

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(Please Stand)*

**GOSPEL VERSE: (5:00 PM) COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS**

LSB 338 v. 1



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na-tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.

Text and tune: Public domain

**GOSPEL VERSE: (8:30 AM) SING TO THE LORD OF HARVEST**

*Choir*

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 21:1-11*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

<sup>5</sup>"Say to the daughter of Zion,  
'Behold, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

<sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. <sup>7</sup>They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. <sup>8</sup>Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup>And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" <sup>10</sup>And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup>And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

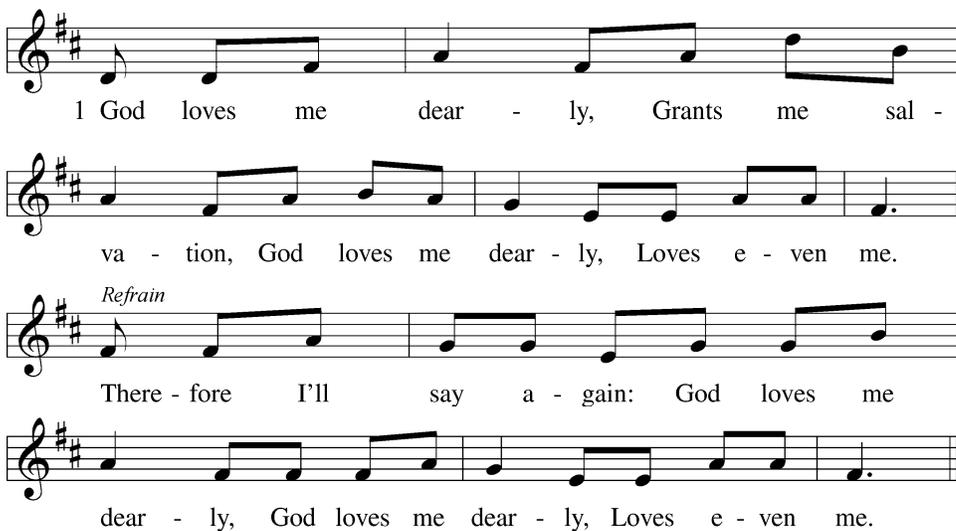
## APOSTLES' CREED

**C** 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.

*(Please Be Seated)*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE 8:30 AM GOD LOVES ME DEARLY

LSB 392 v. 1



I God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -  
va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.  
*Refrain*  
There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me  
dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

Text and tune: Public domain

## HYMN OF THE DAY: HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

LSB 345

## SERMON

*(Please Stand)*

## 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. We pray for those who serve in leadership positions in our national Synod, our district, and our local congregation, that God work among us through their example and witness, that we be of support and encouragement to them, and that together we grow in devotion and dedication in Jesus' name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

**P** As a household of faith, we make our petitions for the sick, the shut-in, and all who this day need our prayers, [*especially . . .*], that their prayers be answered and that they be supported by God's people as they experience His good and gracious will for their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

**P** We pray for those for whom the season of Advent and Christmas is sad or challenging in some way. Help us to reach out to them with compassion, keeping our focus always on the wonderful action of God on our behalf through the coming of Jesus, the promised Messiah. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

*(Special Petitions)*

**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.**

*(Please Be Seated)*

## GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

*Please place offerings in the wooden box located in the church narthex/lobby. Giving is also available online at [ascensionsil.com](http://ascensionsil.com). Your tithes and offerings shape the lives of people through the Gospel of Jesus Christ for now and eternity. Thank you for your generosity!*

*"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."  
2 Corinthians 9:7*

## OFFERTORY: HARK THE GLAD SOUND

LSB 349 v. 1

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "I Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a throne And ev - 'ry voice a song." The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Text and tune: Public domain

*(Please Stand)*

## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper.

How should we each examine ourselves before coming to Holy Communion?

1. Be aware of our sins and be sorry for them
2. Believe in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and in His words in the Sacrament
3. Intend, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as God's forgiven people walking in newness of life

### 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.

### PROPER PREFACE

**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. Trusting in Your promises, we bless You for Your abiding presence in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has come to this earth and has taken upon Himself the sins of the world. By His sacrificial death and His glorious rising from the grave, He has opened to us the very gates of heaven. With all the company around the throne of the Lamb in His kingdom, we join the unending praises.

### HYMN VERSE: HARK THE GLAD SOUND

LSB 349 v 2

2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him  
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.

Text and tune: Public domain

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

**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.”

**PAX DOMINI** *John 20:19*

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

**C** Amen

**HYMN VERSE: HARK THE GLAD SOUND**

*LSB 349 v 3*

3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.

Text and tune: Public domain

*(Please Be Seated)*

✠ **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** ✠

**(8:30 AM) LORD, HOW PLENTEOUS IS THY BOUNTY**

*Choir*

**SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME**

*LSB 332*

**ONCE HE CAME IN BLESSING**

*LSB 333*

**THE NIGHT WILL SOON BE ENDING**

*LSB 337*

*(Please Stand)*

## 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.

## HYMN VERSE: JOY TO THE WORLD

LSB 387 v 1

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.

Text and tune: Public domain

## BENEDICAMUS

- P** We are people loved by Christ  
**C** Sharing Christ's love.  
**P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

- 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.

## CLOSING HYMN: LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU EVERLASTING DOORS (8:30 AM)

LSB 339  
Choir sings v 1

## POSTLUDE

Organ

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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