

Luther Memorial Church & School

CHURCH OF THE
LUTHERAN CONFESSION

December 11, 2011

Advent 3

Paraments are purple; the color of royalty, Christ is coming as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Welcome to all! This week's focus:

CHRIST'S COMING BRINGS JOY TO THE REPENTANT!

Today's order of service and hymns: **Red Hymnal pg. 15**

72 ♦ 701 ♦ 245:1-4 ♦ 58:9

Bells – Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: #72 [Red Hymnal]

THE INVOCATION

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Pastor: We begin our Savior's worship service in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

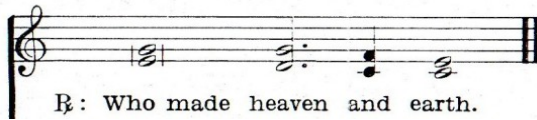


CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

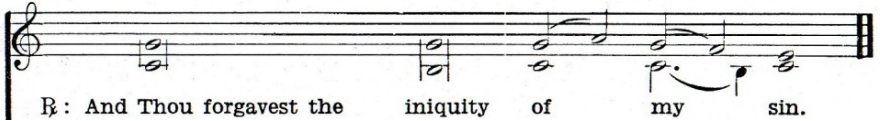
We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, begging Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. For our help is in the name of the Lord!





Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.



Pastor: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He calls them "children of God," and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.



THE INTROIT

Having received the Lord's forgiveness, we are glad to enter into His courts with praise and thanksgiving. This entrance is made in the Introit with the Lord's own Word, often a Psalm.

P: Prepare the way of the Lord!

C: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

P: All flesh shall see it together,

C: For the mouth of the Lord has spoken!

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (Hymnal, page 6)

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;". The second staff contains the lyrics: "As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen." The music is primarily homophonic, with chords moving in a stepwise fashion.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life. (Hymnal page 7 - sing)

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

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves of music. The first staff contains the lyrics: "Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -". The second staff contains the lyrics: "on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us." The music is primarily homophonic, with chords moving in a stepwise fashion.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

"Glory to God in the highest" (Hymn 237:1)

**All glory be to God on high, Who has our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on
earth again; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

R: And with thy spir - it.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of one staff of music. The lyrics are: "R: And with thy spir - it." The music is primarily homophonic, with chords moving in a stepwise fashion.

Pastor: Let us pray: (Pastor prays prayer of the day)

R: A - - - - men.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of one staff of music. The lyrics are: "R: A - - - - men." The music is primarily homophonic, with chords moving in a stepwise fashion.

1ST SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ JAMES 5:7-10

In **the Epistle** we are counseled to be patient until the coming of the Lord. This world's troubles are not to discourage us.

7 Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. 8 You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not complain, brethren, against one another, that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door. 10 As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

THE GRADUAL

The Gradual is a "Bridge of praise" that links the Old Testament with the New Testament.

P: You who dwells between the angels, shine forth;

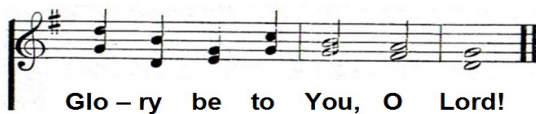
C: Stir up Your strength and come. Hallelujah!

P: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel:

C: You who leads the people of Joseph like a flock. Stir up Your strength: and come and save us. Hallelujah!



2ND SCRIPTURE LESSON ~ MATTHEW 11:2-11



In the **Gospel**, Jesus testifies both to John the Baptist and of Himself. He points to His own work of bringing joy and freedom as authenticating His ministry as well as the message of John.

2 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" 4 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the

poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." 7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. 10 "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."



CONFESSION OF FAITH ~ APOSTLES' CREED

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles. We boldly confess what God has taught us to believe.

- I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**
- I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

Hymn of the Day: #701 [Tan Supplement]

CHILDREN'S SERMON

But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.' ~Matthew 19:14

SERMON

read/watch sermons and services online at www.fdllutheran.org

Jesus said, "...Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" ~Luke 11:28

Ezekiel 18:30-32 NASB

30 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, each according to his conduct," declares the Lord God. "Repent and turn away from all your transgressions, so that iniquity may not become a stumbling block to you.

31 Cast away from you all your transgressions which you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! For why will you die, O house of Israel?

32 For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord God. "Therefore, repent and live."

Theme: **"God's Word Never Changes.
---Will We?"**

THE OFFERTORY ~ TLH PG. 22

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

SERMON HYMN: #245:1-4 [Red Hymnal]

OUR OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD

"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7

WE GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD: [Red Hymnal #400:1,6]

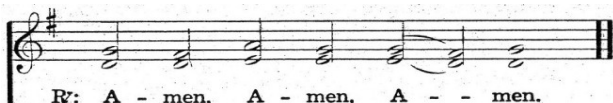
**Take my life and let it be, Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour, At Thy feet its treasure-store;
Take myself, and I will be, Ever, only, all, for Thee.**

SPECIAL PRAYERS ~ GENERAL PRAYER ~ LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.



CLOSING HYMN: #58:9 [Red Hymnal]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all! Guests, please sign our guest book in entryway and we hope you will come and join us again! Questions? (920) 922-7421

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE *"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that."* James 4:15

Today: 9am Study/Sunday School; **10am** Worship (TLH)

***DECORRECTING FOLLOWING THE SERVICE TODAY! PLEASE STAY, HELP!**

CHIMERS & Youth/Adult CHOIR– practice after service
7:30pm Chimers

Tues: 6:30pm Council Meeting

Wed: 10am and 7pm Midweek Advent Worship Services

Series theme: *"Gift Opening is Finally Here!"*

Fri: NO SCHOOL. 7pm ILC Christmas Concert in Eau Claire

Sat: 10-12pm Children's Christmas Eve Practice *(Last one!)*

Sun: 9am Study/Sunday School; **10am** Worship (WS)

CHIMERS & Youth/Adult CHOIR– practice after service
7:30pm Chimers

UPCOMING! Family Christmas Caroling! Dec. 18th (meet at LM @ 1pm)

THE CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM, December 24th (Saturday, at 6pm) is coming up soon! The theme is *"The Trees of Christmas."* **Practices are Saturdays, December 3, 10, and 17 from 10-Noon.**

CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED! The 2012 church cleaner's calendar is up in the entryway on the bulletin board. Please take a look and see what month would work for you to volunteer. Let's keep God's house looking sharp and ready to use for our worship of Christ our Savior!

CLC Devotional Sheep & Shepherds is available for \$12.00 plus postage. The book was written by retired CLC Pastor Dale Redlin (Mankato, MN) and the purpose of the book is to draw all of us ever closer to our Shepherd as we make our way through this world of sin. Maybe it would be a blessing to give to someone as a special gift that literally "keeps on giving." It is all to His glory! To order, send an email to Pastor Redlin at: hope-dale@juno.com

CLC CALL NEWS: The Rev. Vance Fossum, W. Columbia SC, has returned the call to Rock of Ages Lutheran, Grand Rapids MI. The congregation has now called the Rev. Delwyn Maas, Phoenix AZ. *Other news...*

"I am pleased to announce that the Board of Regents of Immanuel Lutheran College has authorized the hiring Paul Heinze as our Facilities Manager. In addition, they have authorized the hiring of Ronald Porath as our assistant maintenance worker. We are thankful that the Lord has provided His Church with two able servants and pray that He will bless their labor."

In the service of Christ,
John K. Pfeiffer

LM CHRISTMAS CARD BOXES – Need Christmas cards? Bernice Mueller has a number of boxes of a dozen of nice Christmas cards at a very good price of \$3-4.00 dollars per box. Please speak with her if you are interested and hurry, she has a limited supply!

USED CHRISTMAS CARDS can be recycled in the red bin in the entryway. The cards are sent overseas and are happily used there!

LM CALLED WORKERS and ILC PROFESSORS DONATION BOXES are in the back of the church until December 21st for the Called Workers, and December 14th for the ILC Professors.

Witnessing idea for the week:

Lord, grant to Your servants that with all boldness we may speak Your word. (Acts 4:29)

Christmas cards...

We may not think of it as it comes up, but all the cards and Christmas letters we right to others is a perfect opportunity to spread and share the Christmas joy and cheer of our faith and hope in the promised Savior.

What do I say or write?

Share what you believe. Share the Word of God.

“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”

Galatians 4:4-5

THIS SUNDAY Usher Team 2 = Don Seibel, Ed Jacobs, Gene Mielke, Don Gescheidle, Ron Snow

Organist: Mrs. Fillmore

NEXT SUNDAY Usher Team 3 = Lowell Boelk, Reuel Dins, John Herzberg, Tim Johannes, Steve Seibel

Organist: Mr. Hay