

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Second Sunday in Advent

✠ POPULUS ZION ✠

December 6, 2020

THE LORD COMES ON THE LAST DAY

The day on which our Lord returns will be a “great and awesome day” (Mal. 4:5). For He will come in a cloud with great power and glory. To the wicked and the proud, it will be a Day of judgment that will “set them ablaze” (Mal. 4:1). The signs preceding this Day will bring them fear and fainting. But to those who believe, who fear the name of the Lord, this Day is one to look forward to and rejoice in: “. . . straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:28). Christ our Redeemer is coming; the Sun of Righteousness will bring healing in His wings. Let us, then, give attention to the words of the Lord, which do not pass away. Let us “through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures” (Rom. 15:4) be strengthened in our hope by the Holy Spirit and watch diligently for Jesus’ coming. Then, by God’s grace, we shall escape all these things that will come to pass and stand before the Son of Man.

COMMUNING AT THIS ALTAR

**GUESTS WISHING TO JOIN OUR CONFESSION AND RECEIVE THIS HOLY SACRAMENT
ARE ASKED TO MEET WITH THE PASTOR BEFORE COMMUNING FOR THE FIRST TIME.**

The Lord’s Supper is joyfully received here today and every Lord’s Day! At the altar, our Lord Jesus Christ delivers His true body and blood into our mouths. His gift of body and blood, given in, with, and under the bread and wine, bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this sacred meal life and salvation are given to us.

All members of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod have publicly confessed this sacred gift and its blessings, and so are encouraged to commune.

Every pastor and congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has publicly promised to practice closed communion, where all who come to the Altar bear witness to their oneness in the apostolic doctrine and faith (Acts 2:42). All this is done for the benefit and blessing of the Lord’s people. Because we consider communing at this altar a public declaration of fellowship in what our church believes, teaches, and confesses, we ask that guests speak with the Pastor first.

When you have examined yourself according to Christ’s bidding (1 Cor 11:28), come to His Supper rejoicing, just as Jesus asks, knowing that our Lord meets you at His altar with joy. Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than the Holy Supper are asked to cross their arms over their chest.

As you commune, select either the individual cup or the common chalice.

Communicants who cannot easily come to the altar will be communed in the pew.

Please notify an usher or the Pastor beforehand if you need such assistance.

To help prepare yourself to receive the Lord’s Body and Blood you may read “[Christian Questions with Their Answers](#)” found on pages 329 and 330 of the hymnal.

ADVENT RUBRICS

Unique to Advent and Lent the Liturgy drops the Greater Gloria (“Gloria in Excelsis”). The Church sets that magnificent hymn of praise aside until we hear the angels sing it at the birth of Christ! Also, you’ll notice that as the weeks of Advent go forth there will be two collects: the collect of the day (particular to the readings appointed) as well as the collect for the first Sunday in Advent. Finally, you can’t help but notice the Advent Wreath with four candles around the outside. This wreath is a calendar – slowing us down, week by week, drawing us in anticipation towards Christmas. Each of the four candles represents a different aspect of our waiting: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. Three candles are blue; one is pink. The pink calls us to rejoice and find the refreshment needed in a period of fasting (there’s something similar in Lent, too). Advent wreaths at home with daily family prayer and devotion is highly encouraged as well.

✠ THE DIVINE SERVICE ✠

Setting Three, Lutheran Service Book, p.184

HYMN OF INVOCATION ~ Once He Came in Blessing

333

△Please stand and face the cross as it enters.

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

INVOCATION

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

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

C Amen.

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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

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

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 Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

Ps. 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Is. 62:11b; 30:30, 29



P Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

C The Lord will cause His majestic voice | to be heard,*
and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

P Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

C Restore us, | O God;*

let Your face shine, that we | may be saved!

- P** Turn again, O | God of hosts!*
Look down from | heaven, and see.
- C** But let your hand be on the man of your | right hand,*
the son of man whom you have made strong | for yourself!
- C** *Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** Say to the daughter of | Zion,*
“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”
- C** The Lord will cause His majestic voice | to be heard,*
and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

**You may bow your head at this point
in praise of the Name of the Holy Trinity*

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

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.

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 A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 4:1-6

¹“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.



G Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁵“And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

G 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 Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;

**You may genuflect
in reverence of the incarnation*

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 sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke 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.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

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SERMON

Stand

OFFERTORY ~ *What Shall I Render to the Lord*

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

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.

OFFERING ~ *Taken at the Door*

Please consider donating on-line: to Grace or to Trinity.

Or, if you prefer, please mail your offering for the strength of the Church.

The offering is a joyful response of faith. It should be free, generous, and offered with thanksgiving to God.

The offering today goes toward the work and mission of the Church.

Guests, especially, should not feel obliged to give.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

After each petition respond: "Hear our prayer."

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



R And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1



R We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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

Psalms 136



R It is meet and right so to do.

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 ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9



R 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.

DISTRIBUTION

Please take a moment and read 'COMMUNING AT THIS ALTAR' in the front cover of the bulletin. Guests are invited to please speak with the Pastor before communing for the first time.

Prayer Before Reception of Holy Communion

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the Name of the Lord. What shall I give to the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ~

<i>O Lord, How Shall I Meet You</i>	334
<i>When All the World Was Cursed</i>	346
<i>Hark the Glad Sound</i>	349
<i>Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come</i>	350

Prayer After Reception of Holy Communion

I live, and yet not I, but Christ lives in me. What we have received with our mouths, O Lord, let us keep with faithful hearts, that this Gift given us in earthly time may bring us to eternal salvation. Amen.

Additional prayers to prepare for receiving the Sacrament are found in the front cover of the hymnal.

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

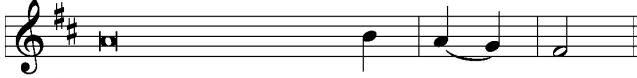
Luke 2:29-32



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
people 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 without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

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



G and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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 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.



G A - men.

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we the Lord.



G Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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.



G A-men, a-men, a - men.

△ Please remain standing and face the cross in reverence as it processes out.

CLOSING HYMN ~ O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

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ADVENT

Entering His Courts with Joy!

GRACE AND TRINITY

ADVENT AND CHRIST-MASS SCHEDULE

✠ Order of Compline ✠

Wednesdays, 7:00pm ~ Trinity Lutheran Church
Dinner at 6pm

12/2/20 ~ Midweek I

Ad Te Levavi

12/9/20 ~ Midweek II

Populus Zion

12/16/20 ~ Midweek III

Gaudete

12/23/20 ~ Midweek IV

Rorate Coeli

ChristMass Services:

12/24/20 ~ ChristMass Eve Candlelight Lessons and Carols

Grace Lutheran Church ~ 7:00pm

12/24/20 ~ ChristMass Eve Divine Service (Midnight Mass)

Trinity Lutheran Church ~ 11:00pm

12/25/20 ~ ChristMass Day Divine Service

Grace Lutheran Church ~ 10:00am

12/31/20 ~ Eve of the Circumcision and Naming of Jesus

(New Year's Eve Divine Service)

Grace Lutheran Church ~ 5:30pm

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." ~ Luke 2:11