

+DIVINE SERVICE II+  
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
+SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT + 10 DECEMBER 2023+

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**The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

[tgsicms.org](http://tgsicms.org)

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# The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
  - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
  - ❖ Mr. Jose Lopez, Congregational Chairman
  - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

## Welcome to our Divine Service!

*We are pleased that you are with us.*

### +Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the rubrics of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

**Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!** We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

**To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!**

### A Note From The Organist:

Sam Catherton is Kantor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheboygan Wisconsin. He has done much work in the field of musicology and published many articles in the field. He gives us an energetic setting of this early American tune.

Max Drischner spent his career between Germany and Norway. His writing is generally in a very conservative harmonic style but is very listenable. He sets “The Time Is Surely Drawing Near” as a brief fugue.

# Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation

## 343 Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!  
 2 God's peo-ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!  
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom-ised king!  
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!  
 Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar-ments! Shout and sing!  
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry:  
 God's prom-ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
 All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na-tions, now a - dore Him!  
 So let your praise be sound-ing For kind-ness so a - bound-ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

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Tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

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.

*Kneel/Stand*

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

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 167*

- 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.**

## Absolution

*LSB 167*

- 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.**

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: v. 3*

Restore us, | O God;\*  
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!  
**Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!\***  
**You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.**  
You brought a vine out of | Egypt;\*  
it took deep root and | filled the land.  
**Restore us, O | God of hosts,\***  
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!  
**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.**  
Restore us, | O God;\*  
let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

**Kyrie**

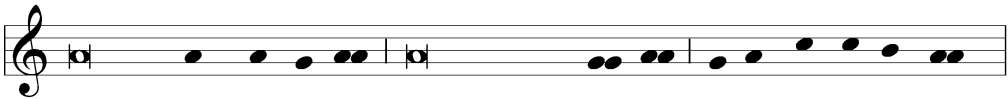
*LSB 168*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



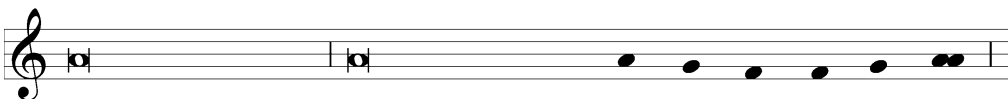
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



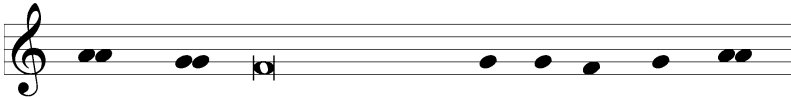
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



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.

*+This Is the Feast is omitted during Advent+*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**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.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,

that her iniquity is pardoned,

that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,

"Behold your God!"

<sup>10</sup>Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

behold, his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.  
<sup>11</sup>He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*Psalm 85*

### Revive Us Again

- <sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land;  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- <sup>2</sup>**You forgave the iniquity of your people;  
you covered all their sin.**
- <sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath;  
you turned from your hot anger.
- <sup>4</sup>**Restore us again, O God of our salvation,  
and put away your indignation toward us!**
- <sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever?  
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- <sup>6</sup>**Will you not revive us again,  
that your people may rejoice in you?**
- <sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,  
and grant us your salvation.
- <sup>8</sup>**Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,  
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;**  
but let them not turn back to folly.
- <sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,  
that glory may dwell in our land.
- <sup>10</sup>**Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.**
- <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground,  
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- <sup>12</sup>**Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
and our land will yield its increase.**
- <sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him  
and make his footsteps a way.

## Epistle

2 Peter 3:8-14

<sup>8</sup>But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

<sup>11</sup>Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup>waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup>But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



## Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

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



<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,  
<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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



## Nicene Creed

**C** 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;  
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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
 △ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in, And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

## Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

*Proper response is "hear our prayer".*

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

Restore us, O God; let Your face shine, that we may be saved! As You led Joseph like a flock, so now by Your Son lead us into straight paths. Bring us out of the bondage of our sins, and plant us securely in Your eternal promises. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Gracious God, You sent John the Baptist to herald the coming Messiah and proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. In these latter days, You send pastors to proclaim the same repentance for the forgiveness of sins, and through them lead Your people to trust in Your salvation. Look with kindness upon all pastors, that they may be diligent and faithful heralds of Your beloved Son. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** God of all comfort, Your Word alone endures forever. The nations of the world come and go before You, even kings and rulers are like grass before Your breath. Preserve us from placing our trust in princes and mortal men. Give us rulers who will rule after Your good pleasure, keeping order and protecting life, that we may live peaceably in godly quietness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, to our prayers *especially for Alice, Cynthia, Gene, Johnathan, Lynette, Margret, Marion and her family, Owen, Rosita, Sophia, and Timothy. For mothers, Adrianna and Sydney, and their babies.* Give healing, courage and perseverance to all who cry to You, that they may find comfort in Your enduring Word and the certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life with Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Father, we know that You are not slow in keeping Your promises. We thank You for Your patience. Do not take Your Spirit from us when we stray from Your commandments, but convict us of our sin and draw us back to You in repentance. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Lord, You invite us again to Your table to receive the medicine of immortality in the body and blood of Christ, Your Son. May we receive this Sacrament rightly, that with faith strengthened and sins forgiven our lives may be lived in holiness and godliness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Lord, as we in the Church on earth wait for the coming of Your Son, we remember all the saints who have gone before us and now rest in Your presence. Keep us safe in Your arms until You gather Your people together in the new heavens and new earth in which righteousness dwells. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C** Amen.

**Offering** *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

**Offertory**

LSB 176



**C** 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.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 177



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And al-so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**G** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 177

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## The 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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

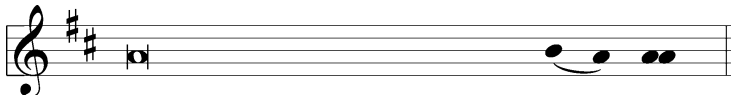
**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### 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.

### Pax Domini

LSB 180



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei

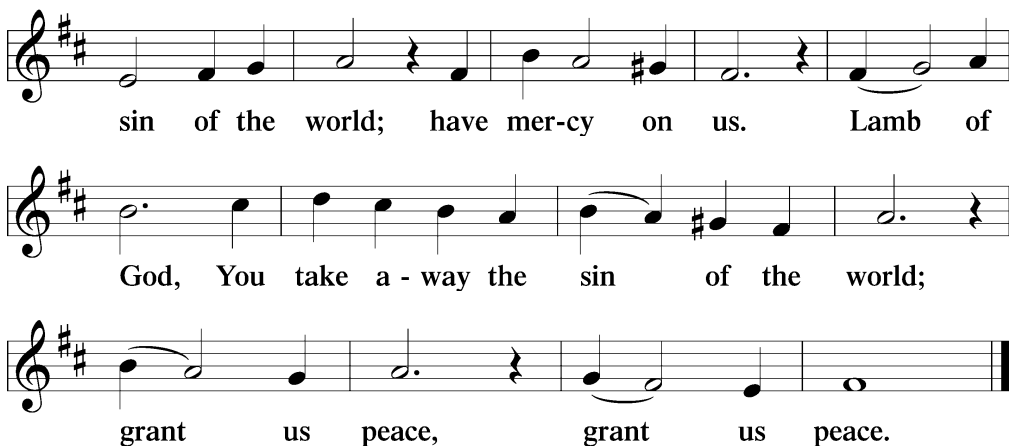
LSB 180



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



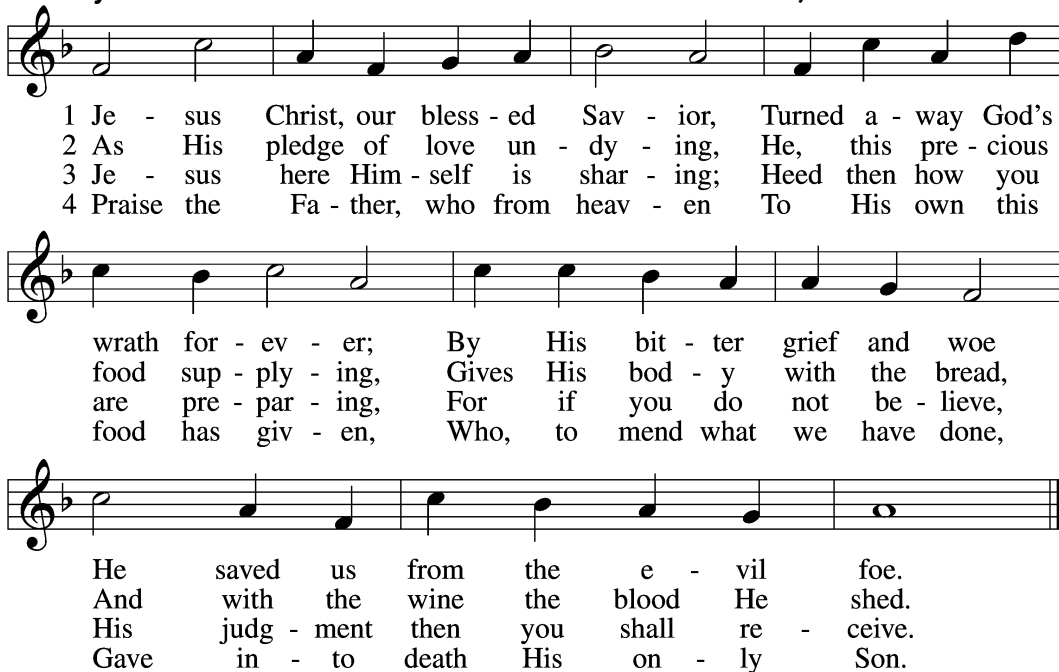
sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of  
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn

### 627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way God's  
 2 As His pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre - cious  
 3 Je - sus here Him - self is shar - ing; Heed then how you  
 4 Praise the Fa - ther, who from heav - en To His own this  
 wrath for - ev - er; By His bit - ter grief and woe  
 food sup - ply - ing, Gives His bod - y with the bread,  
 are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,  
 food has giv - en, Who, to mend what we have done,  
 He saved us from the e - vil foe.  
 And with the wine the blood He shed.  
 His judg - ment then you shall re - ceive.  
 Gave in - to death His on - ly Son.

- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken  
That this food is to be taken  
By the sick who are distressed,  
By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor  
Were the cost of God's high favor;  
Do not come if you suppose  
You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,  
And receive My grace and favor:  
Those who feel no pain or ill  
Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying  
If not for your justifying?  
And what use this precious food  
If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes  
And your mouth your sin confesses,  
You will be your Savior's guest,  
Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourish  
That its fruit of love may flourish  
And your neighbor learn from you  
How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug, alt.  
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## Distribution Hymn

## 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It



1	God's	own	child,	I	glad - ly	say	it:	I	am	bap - tized
2	Sin,	dis -	turb	my	soul	no	long - er:	I	am	bap - tized
3	Sa -	tan,	hear	this	proc -	la -	ma - tion:	I	am	bap - tized
4	Death,	you	can -	not	end	my	glad - ness:	I	am	bap - tized



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,  
in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:  
in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,  
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's  
Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y  
I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the  
To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth  
con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism  
font I've trav - eled, All your might has  
dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance



more than an - y That brought me sal -  
did re - lease me In a dear for -  
come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your  
bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!  
giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?  
tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!  
strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.

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## Thank the Lord

LSB 181

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what  
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-  
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-  
es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-  
giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** 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 in 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.

**C** A - men.

## Benediction

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** A - men.

### Hymn to Depart

### 347 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.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Acknowledgments**

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✠ **THIS WEEK'S NOTES** ✠

**Announcements**

**+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 34**

**+ Altar Guild Set Up:** December 10<sup>th</sup> Maurine  
December 17<sup>th</sup> Susie

**Cleanup for December:** Onja and Sydney

**+ Ushers for December:** Richard Huhn and Olaf Teitell

**+ We will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas after service today! Pizza and refreshments after.**

**+ Poinsettias are ready to order! Turn your order sheets into Moira before Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> if you would like to dedicate a poinsettia and help decorate the church for Christmas!**

**+ Come together this Wednesday for our Second Midweek in Advent.** Suppers for this week will feature dishes from France!

**+ Our congregation has been invited, by Sherman Oaks Lutheran Church, next Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm-7:30pm to their Live Nativity!** Walk through the sights and sounds of Bethlehem as you hear the Good News of Christ's humble birth and God's plan of redemption and love for ALL! Have fun meeting the donkey, sheep and 'camel' that are all part of the story. End the night with cocoa and cookies. Invite your friends and neighbors!

**December Birthdays!**

Brittany Cotton 12<sup>th</sup>

Olaf Teitell 14<sup>th</sup>

Johnathan Thomas 23<sup>rd</sup>

**From Heaven Above to Earth I Come**  
**Midweek Advent Vespers**

Second Midweek in Advent – December 13<sup>th</sup> @7pm  
Third Midweek in Advent – December 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm



Advent Suppers will be served before service at 6pm in the assembly room.



**Joy to the World!**  
**Celebrate Christmas at the Good Shepherd**  
December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve – Divine Service @ 10am  
Organ Recital @ 3:30 pm  
Service of Lessons and Carols @ 4pm

December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day – Divine Service @ 10am

**Lectionary Summary for the Second Sunday in Advent**

**You Are Prepared through Repentance for the Coming of the Lord**

*"The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (Mark 1:1) begins when John the Baptist appears and comes "proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Mark 1:4). As the prophet Isaiah had written, John is the messenger of the Lord, sent before His face to prepare His way. To this day, the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of the Law and the Gospel and in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. By these ways and means, "the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together" (Is. 40:5), and the Good Shepherd "will gather the lambs in his arms" (Is. 40:11). He speaks "tenderly to Jerusalem," and He comforts His people by pardoning their iniquity (Is. 40:1–2). What is more, He promises "new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells" (2 Peter 3:13). Repent, therefore, and humble yourself as you wait for His coming in peace (2 Peter 3:14), because He "is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).*

**Verse of the Week**

"He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord, Jesus" **Revelation 22:20**

## **A Snippet From 1517**

### ***“Repentance According to the Scriptures: Mark 1:1-8”***

*Repentance comes on account of suffering, loss, failure, and death. It happens when the promise of forgiveness of sin given in Jesus’ death is proclaimed to us down-and-outers.*

...Greek word in [Mark 1:4](#) that’s translated as “repentance” is *metanoia*. Repentance has so many centuries of sacred interpretation that have been laminated on it that it’s difficult to get past the veneer of law and religion. Better to translate *metanoia* with its literal meaning: “doing a U-turn.” In “Total Eclipse,” when the background vocalist sings “Turn around, Bright Eyes,” he’s putting before her a new possibility of turning to him as the solution to “love in the dark.” John the Baptist stands with his back to the river and bids the crowds to turn around as well.

The problem with repentance is that it’s invariably regarded as an act of the will. Repentance demands that we gin up our will and *decide* to make a clean breast of things and now live a more moral, spiritual, ethical, religious, useful, God-pleasing life. But true repentance isn’t a willful work. It’s a response to a beckoning voice: “Turn around.” When spoken by the one who also says “Follow me” and “Take up your cross,” his well of affection for sinners makes it irresistible. Jesus’ call fosters in us the realization that “Total Eclipse” voices: “...now I’m only falling apart / There’s nothing I can do / Total eclipse of the heart.” To repent is to turn and say to the calling Lord, “Sorry, I’ve got nothing. If anything’s going to change, you’re going to have to make it happen. I don’t have it in me.”

Such a U-turn comes, John proclaims, with a “baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” We know about such a Greek grammatical construction from the story of Luther wrestling with “the righteousness of God” in Romans. It’s a genitive clause, indicating possession. This is righteousness that belongs to God. But Luther’s explosive insight was that it can also be read as righteousness that comes as divine gift. *Baptisma metanoias*, or “baptism of repentance” is such a genitive phrase.

It’s usually read like Luther read Romans, that baptism flows from repentance. That’s how folks in the Anabaptist believer’s baptism tradition see it. Baptism is a seal on prior repentance. But what if we read it instead as repentance that flows out of baptism? We’d have to think about what we’re baptized in. In [Romans 6:3](#), Paul declares that we are baptized into Christ’s death. Repentance, then, comes on account of suffering, loss, failure, and death. It happens when the promise of forgiveness of sin given in Jesus’ death is proclaimed to us down-and-outers. Repentance happens when our hearts are shadowed in the total eclipse of our brokenness and we hear the voice of Jesus: “Turn around, bright eyes. I will give you rest.”

The Lord is about to step into the water to be steeped in the sin of all those who’ve come to the Jordan. He’s not about to be afraid of a powder keg like you.

*Ken Sundet Jones, February 2021, 1517.org*