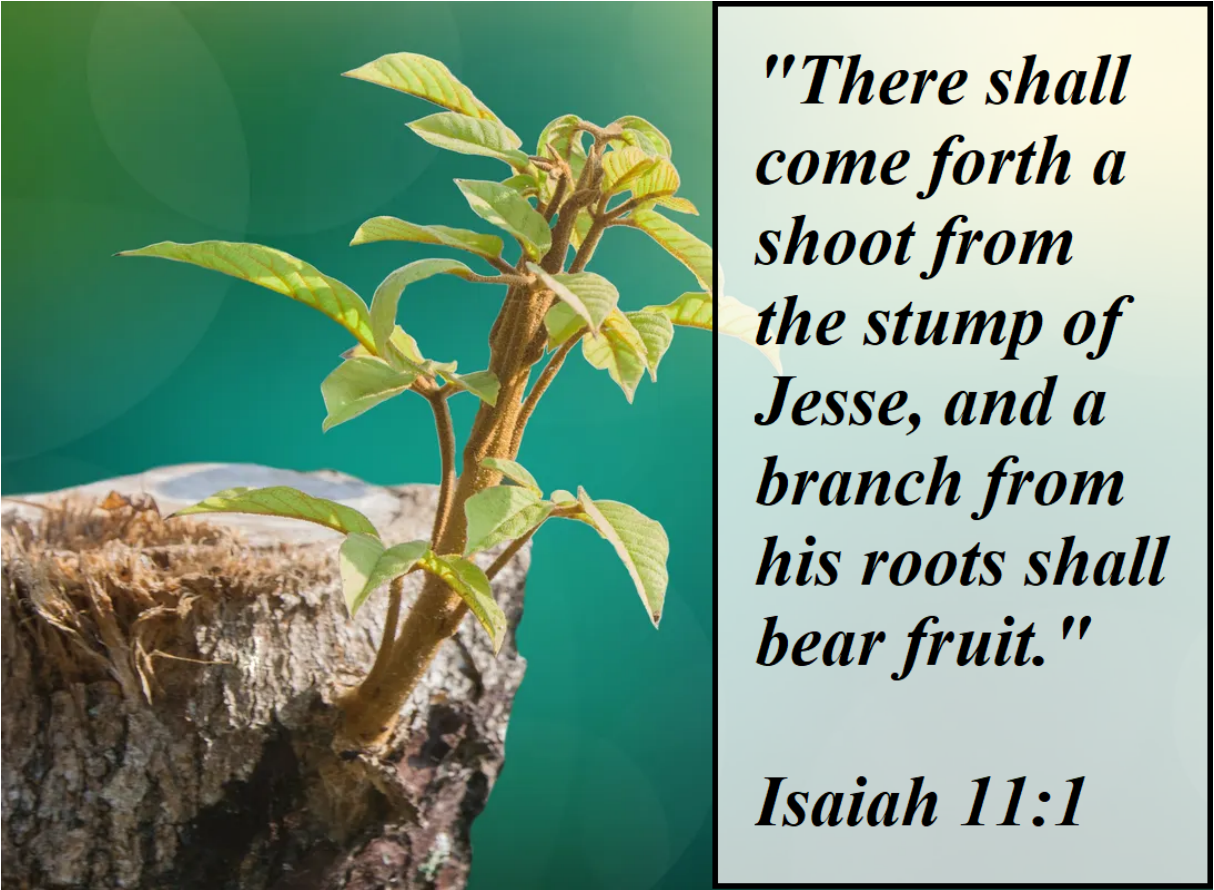


THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 6-7, 2025

“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education”

“Persevere With Thanksgiving”



Music of Preparation,
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: ***“Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education.”***

Welcome! On this second Sunday of Advent, we eagerly welcome all who have joined with us in anticipation of the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May this time of worship be encouraging and inspirational to all.

Devotions & Publications are available in the Main Entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... **WORSHIP NOTES**

Communion: *The Lord’s Supper - A Reverent Sacrament

The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 11:27,29, “Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the Lord’s cup in an unworthy way is guilty of sinning against the Lord’s body and blood. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the Lord’s body brings judgment on himself as he eats and drinks.” In view of the serious nature of the Lord’s Supper, Paul commands us to examine ourselves to see if we are partaking the supper for the purposes for which Christ instituted with our hearts properly prepared. We heartily invite Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to receive of the Lord’s Supper. Other guests, we ask you to see the pastor or lay minister first so that you may receive the supper to your benefit rather than to your harm as the Apostle Paul warns.

NOTE: If you are allergic or cannot drink full strength wine, The two (2) cups in the center of each tray have water with a drop or two of wine.

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. **Please list the name of each person in worship.** (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Please sign our guest book found in the main entryway. Our school has a few nooks and crannies, so don’t be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available in the main entryway.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

Preservice - 8:30am - Special Music

Youth/Adult Band

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

LSB, hymn #352

Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly kept His word
And at last to us did send Christ, the sinner's help and friend.

What the fathers most desired, What the prophets' heart inspired,
What they longed for many_a year, Stands fulfilled in glory here.

Abram's promised great reward, Zion's helper, Jacob's Lord—
Him of twofold race behold— Truly came, as long foretold.

As Your coming was in peace, Quiet, full of gentleness,
Let the same mind dwell in me Which is Yours eternally.

Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.

Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

C: **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b*

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.** *1 John 1:8-9*

P: Dear Friends in Christ, let us humble our hearts before our Holy God and silently reflect upon our sins.

(Moment of silent reflection)

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. 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. *John 20:19-23*

C: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast (Sung)

Revelation 5:12-13, 19:5-9

C: **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

P: The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22
C: (Sung) And also 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 the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10 *(A shoot from the stump of Jesse)*

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him - - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD - - and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the hole of the cobra, and the young child put his hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 15:4-13

(Abound In Hope)

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. for I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Stand *(as you are able)*

Alleluia and Verse - Common

John 6:68

C: (Sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.
 P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.
C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 3:1-12

(Prepare the way of the Lord!)

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not think you can say to

yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **(Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *LSB, hymn #357, st 1-4*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree, Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to Thee, O Israel!

Sermon: "The King Comes!!" *Isaiah 11:1-10*

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the 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 of the world to come. Amen

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . . O God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, You remind us to be prepared and ever ready for the coming of Your Son as Judge of the living and the dead. By Your Holy Spirit cause us truly to be repentant and to turn to You in faith, that receiving Christ's own righteousness we may joyfully prepare for His return. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **Hear Our Prayer.**

P: Gracious Lord, You have called each of us to our families, to this congregation, and to our daily work. We pray that You would enable us to be faithful in our various vocations and to remove those obstacles in our lives that would prevent others from seeing You in us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **Hear Our Prayer.**

P: Look upon our nation with Your favor, O God. Grant wisdom, understanding and honesty to those who govern that we may dwell in peace and that Your Word may have free course to call all within our borders to Your mercy and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **Hear Our Prayer.**

P: God of comfort, grant patience to all who await the joy of Your abiding and healing presence: those afflicted with physical sickness, the discouraged and those who mourn. We lift up before You those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). O God, remind us all of the shortness of time, and grant us courage to serve our neighbor while it is still day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

P: Heavenly Father, grant that we may receive the body and blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus, this day in true repentance and faith, that we may be strengthened for the journey of the coming days, and sustained in holiness and righteousness all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .)

P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

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)

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

8:30am - Special Music

Youth/Adult Band

OFFERTORY - Let The Vineyards

LSB, Hymn # 955

C: (Sung) Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

HOLY COMMUNION

(In preparation to receive the Sacrament, please read the Communion notes on page 2)

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: (Sung) And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: (Sung) We lift them to the Lord.

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

Psalms 136

C: (Sung) It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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, 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 singing:

SANCTUS ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

C: (Sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P: O 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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

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 ^t 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 is my ^t blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Mt 26:26-28, Mk 14:22-24, Lk 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25

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

John 20:19

C: And also with you.

Agnus Dei ~ The Lamb of God

John 1:29

C: (Sung) Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Please be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB628 - Your Table I Approach

Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

LSB350 - Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

Come, Thou precious Ransom, come, Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to Thee all portals.
Come, Thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for Thee.

Enter now my waiting heart, Glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, Though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine When Thou art my guest divine!

My hosannas and my palms Graciously receive, I pray Thee;
Evermore, as best I can, Savior, I will homage pay Thee,
And in faith I will embrace, Lord, Thy merit through Thy grace.

Hail! Hosanna, David's Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let Thy kingdom, scepter, crown, Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our King.

LSB342 - What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

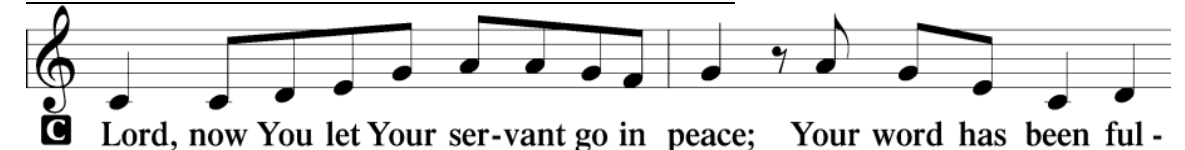
What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!

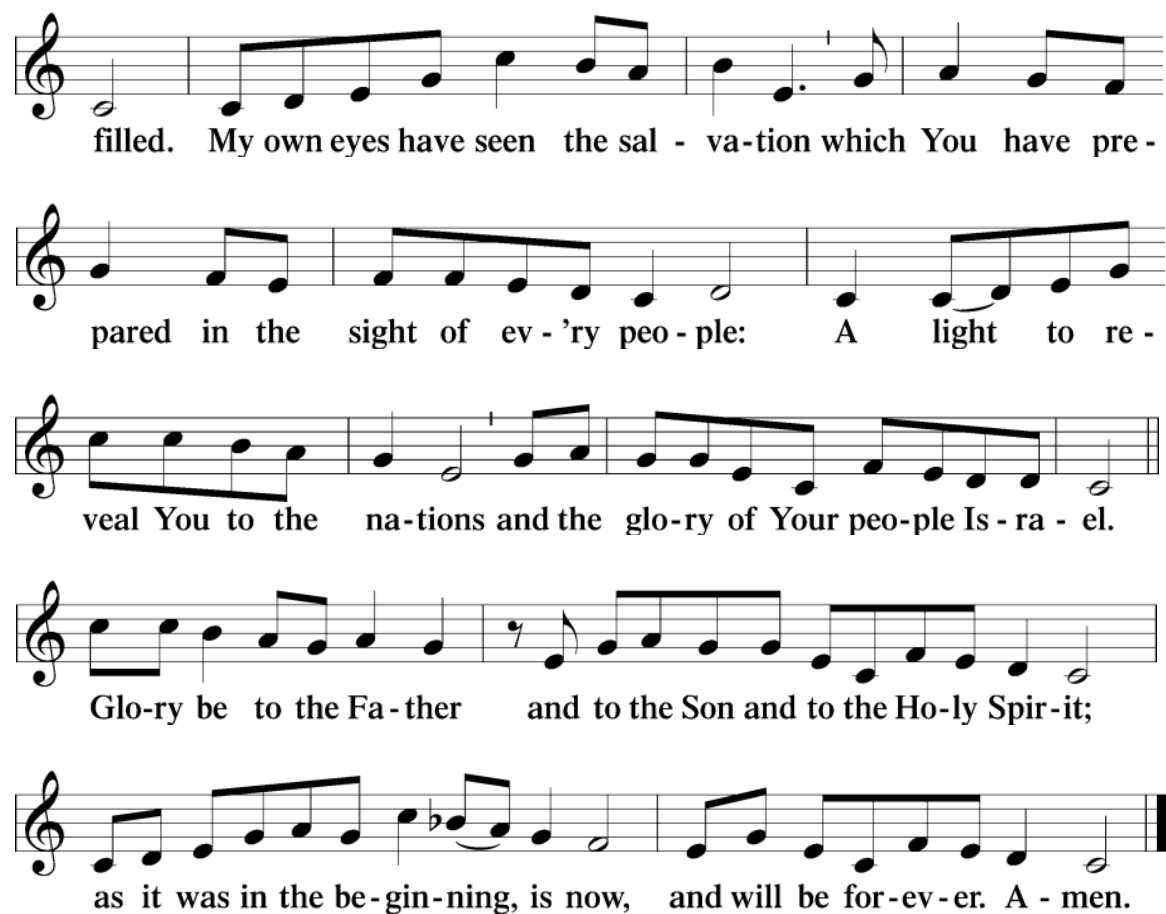
A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God's design.

As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.

Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword— Come, open heaven's door.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: Nunc Dimittis:





filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -

pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -

veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. . . . Grant us Your grace, O Lord God, heavenly Father, that what we have here received in Word and Sacrament we may keep holy and without blemish in our hearts and lives. Keep the earthly preparations for a holiday from distracting us from being ready to receive Him on the day You have appointed, when all people shall stand before Him, our Savior and our Judge; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

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: **(Sung) Amen**

Closing Hymn: "Hark the Glad Sound"

LSB, hymn #349

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name.

See You In Worship Next Week!

Post service - 8:30am - Special Music

Youth/Adult Band

After worship prayer

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my sister, Paulette Forehand and nephew, Eric Forehand, by Michelle and Randy Gossman; Rhonda & Dustin, Parker and Carter Childs; Angie & Ryan, Luke and Audrey Chalmers; also in loving memory of our son and brother, Jimmy Jenkins, by Marilyn & Dick Jenkins, Amanda Fedrow, and Edie & Rob Rudolf and family.



ADVENT
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

| | |
|---|--|
| Rev. Karl J. Koeppen Senior Pastor | Rev. David Baker Missionary to Mongolia |
| Rev. Roger A. Drinnon Associate Pastor | Rev. Ross Engel Adopt-A-Chaplain |
| Mr. Brian Porter Principal | Church & School Office: 932-0312 |
| Church Campus 348 E. Merchant, Kankakee | |
| School Campus and Church & School Office 1780 Career Center Road, Bourbonnais | |
| Church & School Website www.stpaulslutheran.net | |

(PK)

COPYRIGHT ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Portions of this service may be copyrighted under:
Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Scripture quotations taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society®. Used by permission. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

COVER IMAGE:
Music: Music re-printed through CCLI License #640335 or through hymnal/songbook ownership or song is Public Domain and not copyrighted. LSB781 - We Give Thee But Thine Own. **HYMNS:** LSB352 - Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord: Text (sts. 1–6) and Music: Public domain; LSB357 - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–7) and Music: Public domain; LSB628 - Your Table I Approach: Text (sts. 1–6) and Music: Public domain; LSB350 - Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come: Text (sts. 1–4) and Music: Public domain; LSB342 - What Hope! An Eden Prophesied: Text (sts. 1–4): © 1998 Stephen P. Starke Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, number 100012920; LSB349 - Hark the Glad Sound: Text (sts. 1–4) and Music: Public domain