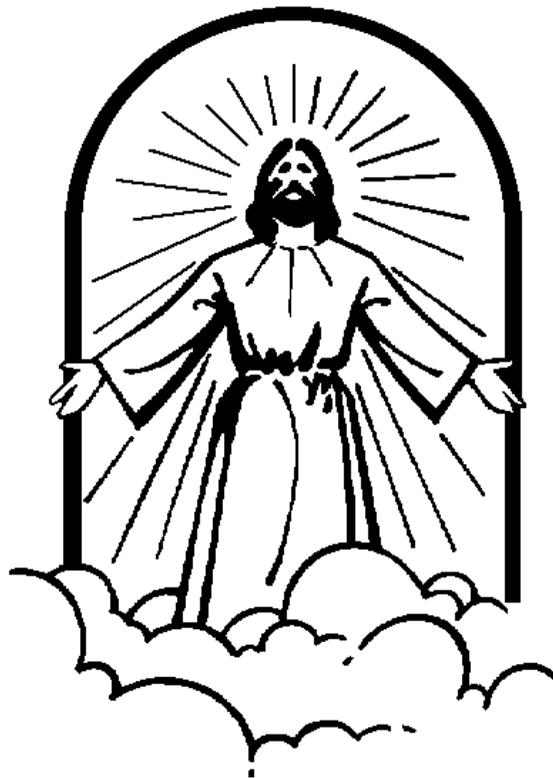


December 10, 2017



*Ascension Lutheran Church*  
*A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession*  
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Ascension Lutheran is a family of Christians intent on sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ and His victory over death

## The Second Sunday In Advent

*“In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.” (1 John 4:10)*

**PRESERVICE MEDITATION:** Psalm 103 (pages 145-146, TLH)

**HYMN 712** (Worship Supplement) *“What Child Is This”*

A Service Of Word & Sacrament, setting 2 (p. 12, Worship Supplement)

**FIRST LESSON:** Isaiah 61

<sup>1</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound; <sup>2</sup> to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup> to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified. <sup>4</sup> And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations. <sup>5</sup> Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the foreigner *shall be* your plowmen and your vinedressers. <sup>6</sup> But you shall be named the priests of the LORD, they shall call you the servants of our God. You shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory you shall boast. <sup>7</sup> Instead of your shame *you shall have* double honor, and *instead of* confusion they shall rejoice in their portion. Therefore in their land they shall possess double; everlasting joy shall be theirs. <sup>8</sup> For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, and will make with them an everlasting covenant. <sup>9</sup> Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, that they *are* the posterity *whom* the LORD has blessed. <sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels. <sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.

Responsive Reading from Psalm 32

L: Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: WHEN I KEPT SILENT, MY BONES WASTED AWAY THROUGH MY GROANING  
ALL DAY LONG.

L: Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity.

C: I SAID, “I WILL CONFESS MY TRANSGRESSIONS TO THE LORD” – AND YOU  
FORGAVE THE GUILT OF MY SIN.

L: I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

C: DO NOT BE AS THE HORSE OR AS THE MULE WHICH HAVE NO UNDER-

STANDING, BUT MUST BE CONTROLLED BY BIT AND BRIDLE OR THEY WILL NOT COME TO YOU.

L: Many are the woes of the wicked; but the LORD'S unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in Him.

C: REJOICE IN THE LORD AND BE GLAD, YOU RIGHTEOUS; SING, ALL YOU WHO ARE UPRIGHT IN HEART!

SECOND LESSON: 1 John 4:9-16 *rise*

<sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

The Apostle's Creed (page 15, Worship Supplement)

HYMN 63 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry*"

SERMON: Luke 3:2b-14

### PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

<sup>2</sup> ...the Word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness.  
<sup>3</sup> And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight. <sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; <sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" <sup>7</sup> Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup> Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. <sup>9</sup> And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup> So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?" <sup>11</sup> He answered and

said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" <sup>13</sup> And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you." <sup>14</sup> Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."

OFFERTORY (page 16, Worship Supplement)

Psalm 51:10-12

The Offering from grateful hearts

HYMN 75 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Ye Sons Of Men, Oh, Harken*"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH, and THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION (page 21, Worship Supplement)

Numbers 6:24-26

HYMN 87 (The Lutheran Hymnal) "*Joy To The World, The Lord Is Come*"

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WELCOME, VISITORS! We're very happy that you are here today! You are always welcome.

Please leave a record of your visit in our guest book in the narthex.

TODAY our USHER is Glenn Libby. There will be a NORTH AURORA CARE CENTER SERVICE at 3:00 PM, and a BATAVIA REHAB SERVICE at 4:00 PM.

FRIDAY: North Aurora Care Center Bible study: 10:00 AM.

SUNDAY: WORSHIP SERVICE: 10 AM; SUNDAY SCHOOL & BIBLE STUDY: 11:15 AM.  
NEXT SUNDAY our usher is Rick Louderman. Next Sunday there will be a WEDDING SHOWER FOR MOLLY KOMON after our Bible Study.

CHRISTMAS EVE is on a Sunday this year. We will have ONE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, at 10:00 AM.

CHRISTMAS DAY: Our CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE is at 10:00 AM.

ASCENSION FRUITS OF FAITH: Our offering for Thanksgiving and the last two Sundays was \$979.10 (needed each week: \$1,200.00); our attendance was 20.

WE'RE ALL INVITED to the WEDDING of David Windsor and Molly Komon on Sunday, DECEMBER 31, at 4:00 PM here in our church.

THE ILC CHRISTMAS CONCERT is THIS FRIDAY, December 15, at 7:30 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church in Eau Claire, WI. The concert will include the flute choir, band, mass choir, and tour choir.