



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Advent 2 December 6, 2015

ADVENT SERIES:

Jesus Christ: The Light of Our Christmas

1. The Enlightenment of the World (12/2)
2. The Enlightenment of our Hearts (12/6)
3. The Enlightenment of our Steps (12/13)
4. The Birth of Light (12/25)

A Service of Word and Sacrament

TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

VISITORS: Because Scripture tells us that those who share in the “one bread” are “one body” and then warns against condoning “divisions” in the fellowship, we kindly ask those who are not in fellowship with the CLC first meet with the pastor before communing at the altar. We want to share in this blessing with you and to do so on the basis of a united faith and understanding of the Sacrament. The pastor would be happy to meet with you to explain this practice. You can read more about our practice of “close communion” in the blue trifold pamphlet in the entry way. Thank you for your understanding 1 Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:18-29

Preservice Devotion: Psalm 27, forepart of TLH p.129

OPENING HYMN

TLH 66:1-4 (red hymnal)

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



Congreg. (C) A - - men

M Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.



C Who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

M I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.



C And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and

eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

M Upon this your confession, I, as a called 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 A - - - men

INTROIT

from Psalm 27

M The Lord is my light and my salvation;

C **Whom shall I fear?**

M The Lord is the strength of my life;

C **Of whom shall I be afraid?**

M When You said, "Seek My face,"

C **My heart said to You, "Your face, Lord, I will seek."**

M Do not hide Your face from me;

C **Do not turn Your servant away in anger;**

M Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage,

C **And He shall strengthen your heart;**

M Glory be to God...

GLORIA PATRI ~ Glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit



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



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

M The Lord be with you.

Luke 1:28

C **And also with you.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray ... one God, now and forever,

C A - - - men.

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1–7

- 1 “Behold, I send My messenger,
And he will prepare the way before Me.
And the Lord, whom you seek,
Will suddenly come to His temple,
Even the Messenger of the covenant,
In whom you delight.
Behold, He is coming,”
Says the Lord of hosts.
- 2 “But who can endure the day of His coming?
And who can stand when He appears?
For He *is* like a refiner’s fire
And like launderers’ soap.
- 3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver;
He will purify the sons of Levi,
And purge them as gold and silver,
That they may offer to the Lord
An offering in righteousness.
- 4 “Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem
Will be pleasant to the Lord,
As in the days of old,
As in former years.
- 5 And I will come near you for judgment;
I will be a swift witness
Against sorcerers,
Against adulterers,
Against perjurers,
Against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans,
And against those who turn away an alien—
Because they do not fear Me,”
Says the Lord of hosts.
- 6 “For I *am* the Lord, I do not change;
Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob.
- 7 Yet from the days of your fathers
You have gone away from My ordinances
And have not kept *them*.
Return to Me, and I will return to you,”
Says the Lord of hosts.
“But you said,
‘In what way shall we return?’

GRADUAL

“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed you from the house of the Lord. Hallelujah!



C Halle - lu - jah! Halle-lu-jah! Halle-lu - - jah!

GOSPEL LESSON *(rise)*

M And this is eternal life, that we know the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom He has sent.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

Luke 3:1-14

¹ Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ² while Annas and Caiaphas were high priests, the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, ⁴ 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.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled
And every mountain and hill brought low;
The crooked places shall be made straight
And the rough ways smooth;

⁶ *And* all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

⁷ 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? ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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.”

¹⁰ So the people asked him, saying, “What shall we do then?”

¹¹ 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.”

¹² Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?”

¹³ And he said to them, “Collect no more than what is appointed for you.”

¹⁴ 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.”

M These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, we may have life in His name.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

CREED ~ 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 on 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.

HYMN

TLH 63 (red hymnal)

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

SERMON

Ephesians 5:13–14

¹³ But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. ¹⁴ Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep,
Arise from the dead,
And Christ will give you light.”

The Enlightenment of Our Hearts

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

HYMN

WS 705 (tan hymnal)

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray...

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!



A Service of the Sacrament



M The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

M Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un-to the Lord

M Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

M It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, and now we praise You that You have sent Your only-begotten Son and that, being found in appearance as a man, You have made known the fullness of Your 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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba - oth;



Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo-ry; Ho-san - na,



Ho - san - na, Ho-sanna in the high-est. Bless-ed is He,



Bless-ed is He, Bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, Ho-san- na, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matt. 26, Mk 14, Lk 22, 1 Cor. 11

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and, when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying, 'Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, 'Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.'

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

M The peace of the Lord be with you always!



♩ A - - - - - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.



DISTRIBUTION



NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Now Let Us Depart (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 peo-ple 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

Psalm 107:1

M Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good



and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

M Let us pray ... one God, now and forever.



C A - - - men.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

M 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.



C A - men, A - men, A - - men.

CLOSING HYMN

TLH 66:5 (red hymnal)

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

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Welcome! We wish a warm welcome to our guests this morning. It is our mission to share the good news that God gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him has eternal life (John 3:16-17). May that good news go with you. Feel free to sign our guest book in the entry way. For more information about our church see the visitor comment cards and brochures in the entry way or visit our website at AscensionBatavia.org. We hope to see you again!

Participating in this Service of the Word

Music: M. Kuehne Lead Usher: G. Suwanski

Minister: Pastor D. Pfeiffer