



Founded 1860

***Lutheran
Church
Missouri
Synod***

10202 FM 1935
Brenham, TX
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Midweek
Advent
Worship
December 8th
7:00 PM

Pastor
Rev. Mark
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Organist
Ann Sommer



Midweek Advent Service II

Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Church Bell

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
ALL Amen.

HYMN

Arise, O Christian People

LSB 354



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore Him; Pre - pare for Him the
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn not from me a -



day; Pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, Who takes your
best. Cast out what would of - fend Him, This great, this
high; Be - neath His feet in ter - ror The haugh - ty
side, And help me to re - ceive You This bless - ed



sins a - way. To us by grace a - lone The
heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the way: The
soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and right, That
Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger low Come



truth and light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
low - ly val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
heads God's in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing Your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
glad - ly And forth Your glo - ry show.

Text and tune: Public domain

RESPONSIVE READING

P The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it;

C The world, and all who live in it;

P For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.

C Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors,
ALL That the King of glory may come in.

P Who is this King of glory?

C The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

P Lift up your heads, O you gates;

C Lift them up, you ancient doors;

ALL That the King of glory may come in.

P Who is he, this King of glory?

C The LORD Almighty, he is the King of glory.

P Thousand, thousand saints attending;

C Swell the triumph of his train.

ALL Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P We wait for many things,

C But rarely are we found waiting for Christ to return.

P These sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.

C Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear.

P Set us free from a past that we cannot change.

C Open for us a future in which we can be changed.

P And grant us grace to follow Jesus Christ, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

ALL Then we will glorify you in our work produced by faith, our labor prompted by love,
and our endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

P As a called and ordained servant of Christ I announce to you that your sins are forgiven.
You are free. Forever. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1-7b

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; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But 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 fullers’ soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

⁶“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-20

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the

Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother’s wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

LSB 344



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.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

The Days are Coming – Luke 3:1-20

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried.
 He descended into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

LSB 806



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the



Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en__ Je - sus



Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give



thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en__

Je-sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks, _____ give thanks. _____
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PRAYERS

- P** Rejoicing in the hope of our Savior's appearing, let us pray together, saying, Even so:
- C** **Come, Lord Jesus!**
- P** For the Church, as we wait with eager expectation for the revealing of Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. Even so:
- C** **Have mercy, Lord Jesus!**
- P** For our mission, that we bring glory to God and healing to many people through our work produced by faith, our labor prompted by love, and our endurance inspired by hope. Even so:
- C** **Fill us, Lord Jesus!**
- P** For all the baptized, that we might live watchful and sober lives, eagerly looking forward to our Lord's appearing. Even so:
- C** **Awaken us, Lord Jesus!**
- P** For all sisters and brothers of the Savior who cry out in their time of need. Loving Savior, be their joy in sorrow and their life in death. Even so:
- C** **Comfort them, Lord Jesus!**
- P** For the faithful in heaven who await the day of the resurrection, let us give our thanks and praise and join them in asking that the day may come quickly. Even so:
- C** **Come, Lord Jesus!**
- P** Yea, amen, let all adore Thee.
- C** **High on Thine eternal throne.**
- P** Savior take the power and glory,
- C** **Claim the kingdom as your own.**
- ALL* **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- P** Thou shalt reign and Thou alone!

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.

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 Amen.

HYMN

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, Comes with
 Δ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text and tune: Public domain



POSTLUDE

Welcome to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, where we worship in the name of the One who was, who is and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord. Blessings to you as you celebrate with us today. Please fill out a pew attendance card and place it in the offering plate.



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Sunday, November 28 | 10:15 AM | First Sunday in Advent Services |
| Wednesday, December 1 | 7:00 PM | First Wednesday in Advent Service |
| Sunday, December 5 | 10:15 AM | Second Sunday in Advent Services |
| Wednesday, December 8 | 7:00 PM | Second Wednesday in Advent Service |
| Sunday, December 12 | 10:15 AM | Third Sunday in Advent Services |
| Wednesday, December 15 | 7:00 PM | Third Wednesday in Advent Service |
| Sunday, December 19 | 10:15 AM | Fourth Sunday in Advent Service |
| Friday, December 24 | 6:30 PM | Children's Christmas Eve Service |
| Saturday, December 25 | 9:00 AM | Christmas Day Worship Service |
| Sunday, December 26 | 10:15 AM | First Sunday after Christmas Service |