



Founded 1860

***Lutheran
Church
Missouri
Synod***

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Brenham, TX
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Midweek
Advent
Worship

December 15th
7:00 PM

Pastor
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Third Wednesday in Advent

December 15, 2021 – 7:00 PM

Midweek Advent Service III

Pre-Service Music

Ringing of the Church Bell

HYMN

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

LSB 636, vs. 1-3



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's
lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing
O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

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

ALL **Amen.**

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

Zephaniah 3:14–20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;

he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.

¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,
 and I will change their shame into praise
 and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you in,
 at the time when I gather you together;
 for I will make you renowned and praised
 among all the peoples of the earth,
 when I restore your fortunes
 before your eyes,” says the LORD.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 7:18–28

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
 who will prepare your way before you.”

²⁸I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

LSB 636, vs. 4-6



4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver
 5 Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, Tru - est
 6 Je - sus, sun of life, my splen - dor, Je - sus,



this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is
 friend, and dear - est trea - sure, Peace be - yond all un - der -
 friend of friends, most ten - der, Je - sus, joy of my de -



bound-less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:
 stand - ing, Joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:
 sir - ing, Fount of life, my soul in - spir - ing:

With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to
 Hum - bly now, I bow be - fore You; Love in - car - nate,
 At Your feet I cry, my mak - er, Let me be a
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -
 I a - dore You; Wor - thi - ly let me re -
 fit par - tak - er Of this bless - ed food from
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!
 ceive You And, so fa - vored, nev - er leave You.
 heav - en, For our good, Your glo - ry, giv - en.

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SERMON

The Days are Coming – Luke 7:18–28

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

**☩ 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.**

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

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!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

- 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

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

LSB 636, vs. 7-8

7 Lord, by love and mer - cy driv - en, You once
8 Je - sus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me
left Your throne in heav - en On the cross for me to
glad - ly here o - bey You. By Your love I am in -
lan - guish And to die in bit - ter an - guish,
vit - ed, Be Your love with love re - quit - ed;
To fore - go all joy and glad - ness And to shed Your
By this Sup - per let me mea - sure, Lord, how vast and
blood in sad - ness. By this blood re - deemed and
deep love's trea - sure. Through the gift of grace You
liv - ing, Lord, I praise You with thanks - giv - ing.
give me As Your guest in heav'n re - ceive me.

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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