



MT. ZION

Evangelical Lutheran Church
Greater Detroit, MI

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Madison Heights, MI
48071

Member
Congregation:



Church of the
Lutheran Confession

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Congregation

President:

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Worship 10:00am

Bible Class 9:00am

December 10, 2017



The 2nd Sunday in Advent

Pre-Service Devotion: 1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Today's Worship!

Greeting and Prayer

Opening Hymn 701 (tan supplement): *Prepare the Royal Highway*

The Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P We begin our Savior's worship service today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

The Confession and Absolution of Sins

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

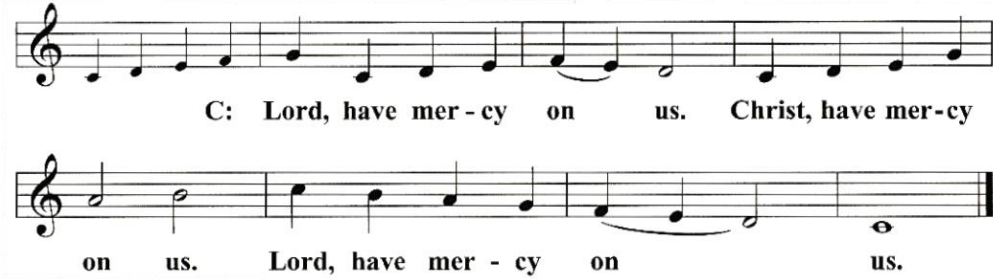
P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Glory to God in the Highest *Gloria in Excelsis*



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,
Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:
We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,
Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

The Prayer for the Day

The main thoughts for the day are collected together in this prayer.

P Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord God, and give us believing hearts, that we may serve you with a pure mind and receive your son when he comes again in all

his glory and grace. We ask this for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 40:1-11*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶ A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" ¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

The Gospel Reading: *2 Peter 3:8-14*

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. ¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The Apostle's Creed

We boldly confess what we believe.

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there 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.

Hymn 61: *Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People*

The Sermon: *Mark 1:1-8*

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, ³ the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

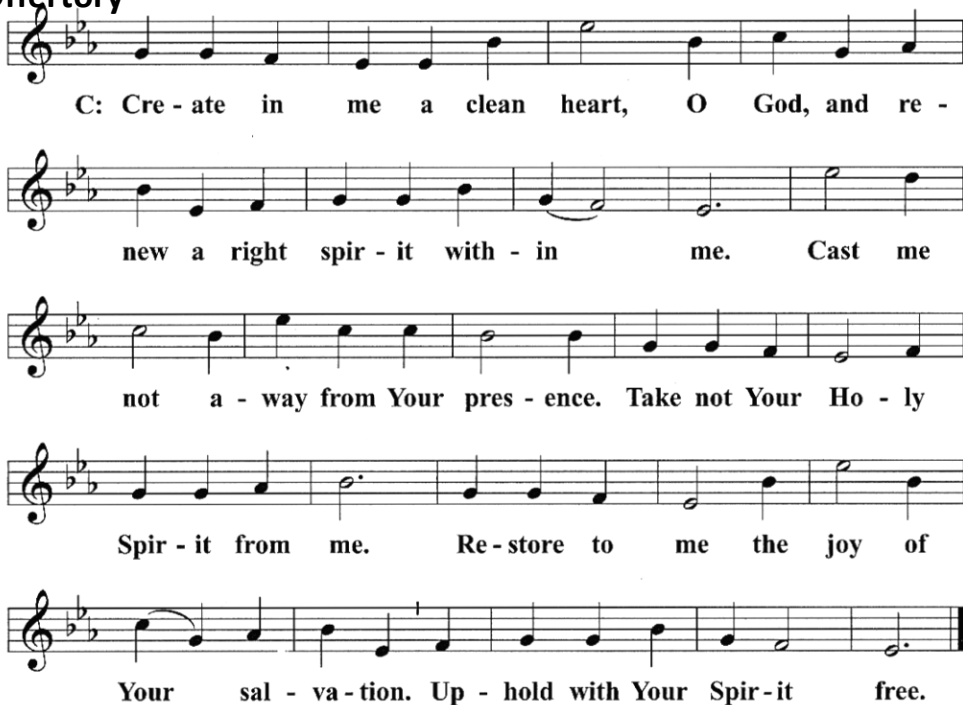
⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

God Gets His Message Out to All People

I. The Messengers: Prophets and Everyday People

II. The Message: Repentance and Forgiveness

The Offertory



C: 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 Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

Hymn 63 (red hymnal): *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

The Offering of Thankful Hearts

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.

Prayer of the Church – The Lord's Prayer

The Service of the Sacrament

Now we approach the second high point of the liturgy, the Sacrament, in which the Lord comes to bless us with His very body and blood. We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying...

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

C: Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho-
san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord; Tru-ly
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

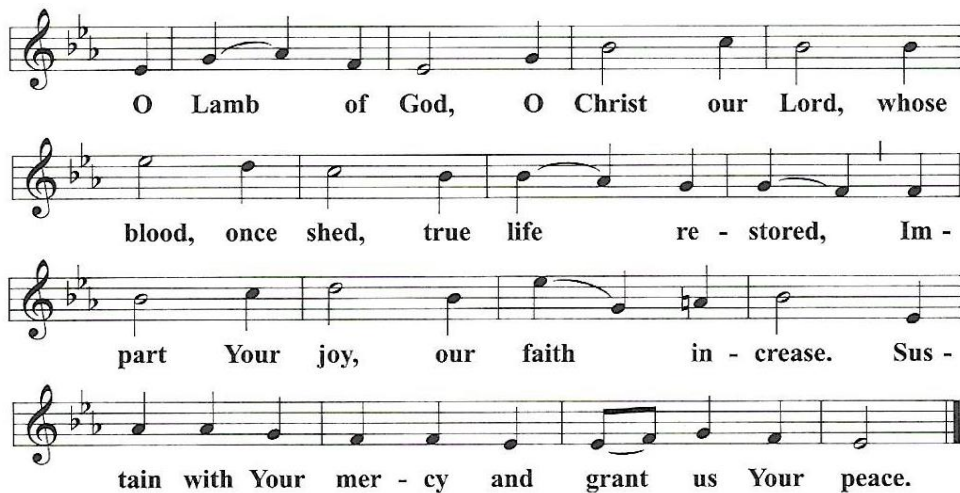
Words of Institution

P 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 the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*



Distribution of the Sacrament

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon the Bible passages listed below. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

- **1 Corinthians 1:10** *"Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."*
- **1 Corinthians 11:26-30** *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."*

O Lord, Now Let Your Servant Nunc Dimittis

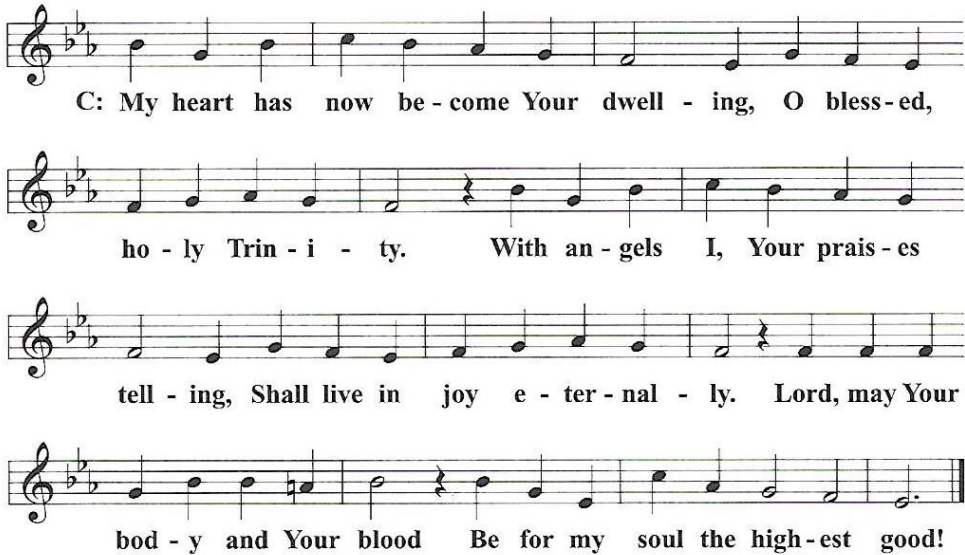


C: 1
2

O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

Thanksgiving



C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

The Benediction

The blessing given by God for His people (Numbers 6:24-26)

P 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 Amen!

Closing Hymn 17 (red hymnal): *Oh, Worship the King*

Announcements

"If the LORD wills, we will do this or that." James 4:15

Welcome Everyone! Especially any visitors who may be with us. We are glad you are here and invite you to join us again soon in our worship of the One true God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If you are looking for a church home, we hope you've found it with us. If you'd like to become a member, we offer a FREE "Information Course" in which the Pastor will meet with you at your convenience to study and discuss the Bible's teachings. Just ask!

Midweek Advent Services: *Advent* means "coming." Advent season is the time when we look forward to the celebration of when Christ *came* into the world to begin His mission of redemption. We have two remaining midweek Advent services. Pastor Mike Wilke from Gethsemane in Saginaw will be guest preaching this Wednesday, December 13 at 7pm. Hope you can make it!

CLC Call News: Immanuel Lutheran, Mankato, MN has called the Rev. Nathan Pfeiffer, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA to serve as co-pastor.

Christmas Game Night: On Friday, December 15, @7pm, the Outreach Committee will be hosting a Christmas Game Night. The event will be held at Mt. Zion. It should be a great evening of fun and fellowship!

Christmas Caroling: After church on Sunday, December 17, we are planning to go caroling at Sunrise Senior Living Center in Troy. Please join us in the singing of some favorite Christmas carols! We're planning to practice at the game night on December 15.

Daily Devotions by CLC Pastors: Now available on the home page of clclutheran.org are daily devotions written and assembled by pastors of the CLC. You will find them under "Recommended Pages/Sites" on the right side of the site. Perhaps you would share the site on your social media outlets, or print a copy for a family member, friend, or neighbor who would benefit from these faith-building encouragements based on God's Word.

Important Dates at Mt. Zion

Today	11am	Church Council Meeting
Wed. 12/13	7pm	2 nd Midweek Advent Service
Fri. 12/15	7pm	Church Christmas Game Night @ Mt. Zion
Sun. 12/17	11am	Christmas Caroling (Sunrise Senior Living in Troy)
Wed. 12/20	7pm	3 rd Midweek Advent Service
Sun. 12/24	7pm	Christmas Eve Service (No morning service)
Sun. 1/14	11am	Annual Voters Meeting

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Advent – Preparing hearts for the coming of the Savior

The Advent Wreath

The advent wreath is rich in symbolism, and as such it aids our worship as it reinforces our hope in the ultimate coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The wreath is covered with evergreen. Just as the species of tree is always green, so our hope for eternity is always alive because it rests upon the living Christ. The wreath is also in the form of a circle, which has no beginning and no end. What better way to picture that our life with God is everlasting.

The lighted candles are symbolic of the light of Christ and His Gospel, which alone can lift us out of our sin and spiritual darkness. The 4 candles surrounding the center candle remind us of the 4000 years of waiting for Christ by the Old Testament world. Each of the candles has been assigned a special name with special significance.

The Prophecy Candle is the 1st candle lit the first week in Advent. It is symbolic of the long years of waiting during which the prophets, inspired of God, kept alive the hope that the son of God was coming to redeem His people from their sins.

The Bethlehem Candle is the 2nd candle lit. It symbolizes the preparations being made for the coming of the Christ-child. The prophecy in Micah 5:2 that foretold Jesus' birthplace at Bethlehem may seem to be a minor revelation, but it shows how God prepared even the least detail for the coming of Christ.

The Shepherds' Candle is the 3rd candle lit and reminds us of our responsibility to share the Savior and His promises. The shepherds left their task and went with haste to see the Christ-child, then they returned to tell others about the good news of the Savior.

The Angel's Candle is lit the 4th week of Advent. It reminds us of the activity of the angels before and after Jesus' birth, bearing messages, ministering, protecting, praising; they will be with Jesus at His final coming on Judgment Day, to gather the nations.

The Christ Candle is the center candle lit at the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Its white color symbolizes the perfect and holy life our Savior led on our behalf. With His death on the cross, the LORD now counts that white robe of Christ's righteousness to each one of us. God's great gift – His Son Jesus!