



He who began
a good work
in you
will bring it
to completion
at the day
of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6, ESV



✝ **Sunday, December 8, 2024** ✝
✝ **Second Sunday of Advent** ✝
✝ **Praise Service – 10:30 am** ✝

Welcome in Jesus' Name

May God richly bless you as you worship Him. If you are a guest with us, we want you to feel welcome; you honor us with your presence, and we are glad to have you here. Please fill out the Attendance Registration located in your bulletin. Prayer requests can also be made on the same insert. If you have a specific prayer request that you would like the Pastor to pray for during the Prayers of the Church, please fill out the bulletin insert and give it to an usher, who will then deliver it to the Pastor.

Holy Communion

We celebrate the Lord's Supper as part of our worship service, on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month during the 8:30am service and the 2nd & 4th Sunday during the 10:30am service.

We invite those who share our confession of faith, namely, that Jesus is truly present in, with & under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to commune with us. Those who share a different confession or have not yet been instructed in the Lord's Supper are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. We offer individual cups. The light-colored cups in the center are grape juice instead of wine. Pastor will be available prior to the worship service to answer any questions about Holy Communion.

To Our Guests

We often have guests in worship from all over the world. Please introduce yourself to Pastor or a Greeter before or after the worship service.

Restrooms

Restrooms and changing tables are located out the back of the sanctuary and down the hallway.

Out of respect for your fellow worshippers & those who have diligently prepared for this worship service, we ask that you **silence your cell phones** & keep conversation to a minimum prior to the service.

Large Print Bulletin: If you desire a sight-saving bulletin, please ask an usher.

Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Lynne Downs in honor of the birthdays of her grandchildren Beau, Veronica, Max and Sofia; and by Joanne Fries in memory of her daughter Janice March's birthday.

Prelude by Mark and Phil

Welcome and Announcements

The second candle on the Advent wreath represents Peace. Like the first candle, it is also blue. Often called the “Bethlehem Candle,” the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph’s journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy Candle, this second candle recalls that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth – Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. Jesus is our peace, and our pathway to return to God. Be embraced by the peace of Jesus “For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’” Malachi 3:6-7

Opening Song

The Power of the Cross

Oh, to see the dawn
Of the darkest day:
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men,
Torn and beaten,
then nailed to a cross of wood.

(Chorus)

This, the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath:
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see the pain
Written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin;
Every bitter thought,
Every evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow.

(Chorus)

This, the power of the cross:
Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath:
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Oh, to see my name
Written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death,
Life is mine to live,
Won through Your selfless love.

This, the power of the cross:
Son of God, slain for us.
What a love! What a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

Please stand

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Response

Psalm 66:1-12

- P** Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!
- C** Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.
- P** All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.”
- C** Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

P He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.
C **There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—**

P let not the rebellious exalt themselves. Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

C **who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

P For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

C **You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**

P you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water;

C **yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**

Prayer

P Let us pray.

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation.

Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Reading of Confession

Psalm 51

P Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

C **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!**

P For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

C **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**

P Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

C **Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

P Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C **Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.**

P Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

P Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

*****We pause for a moment of self-reflection on God's Word*****

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Absolution

LSB 291

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Song of the Day

All who are Thirsty

All who are thirsty
All who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life

Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep, we sing

Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come

Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament

Malachi 3:1-7b

- A** God prepared the way. He prepared the way for peace. Even though we as humans decided to go a different route, God remained faithful in fulfilling His promise. As a result we are not consumed by God's wrath and punishment. Yet, He has refined and cleansed us. Listen to these words from Malachi chapter 3:

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."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Philippians 1:2-11

A Approve what is excellent! This is not an easy task. Yet, Paul prays for the Philippians that they may do just that. Today, May God grant you knowledge and discernment so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. This is my prayer for all of you. The Epistle is from Philippians chapter 1:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and

blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-20

P This morning you will not find peace, or will you? John is very clear that those who disobey God will suffer His wrath. However, for those who abide in God's truth, repent of their sins, and turn back to God, there shall be great peace. Listen to John as even today, he proclaims these words for our hearing, that we may always walk in God. The Gospel is from Luke chapter 3:

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 reprovved 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 Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

- P** Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed...
- 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.

Please be seated

Song of Praise

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Sermon

Cleaned, Prepared...At Peace

Offering

Please stand

Offertory

Be Glorified

In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified!
In my life Lord, be glorified today.

In Your church Lord, be glorified, be glorified!
In Your church Lord, be glorified today.

Prayer of the Church

This morning all prayers will end with the Pastor saying, "Lord in Your mercy," and the congregation response is "hear our prayer."

Preface

P "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

C **For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves."**

P The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

C **And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.**

P Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

Prayer

P Let us pray.

O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins, and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.**

Words of Institution

P Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Matthew 26:26-28 For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C **Amen. Come Lord Jesus, come quickly and bring forth Your true Peace.**

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei - Lamb of God

LSB #550 sts. 1, ref, 2



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.



Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958
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Please be seated

Consider the following as you approach the table:

How do you prepare for the day? Do you just wake up and leave the house? No, you prepare, you get ready, you make yourself look presentable. We should do the same for approaching God's table. Therefore, do you believe that you are a sinner in need of a Savior? Do you believe that Jesus came and died for your sins, and it is only through Him that you are saved? Do you believe that Jesus' true body and true blood are present in, with, and under this meal? If so, then you are prepared, just say the following: Dear Jesus, thank you for your gift of salvation. As I eat this meal, help it to strengthen my faith in your forgiveness and live a life of love towards others as you have loved me.

Distribution

Please stand

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Let us pray...Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name.

C Amen.

Post Communion Collect

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Blessing

- 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.

Closing Song

Sing we the Song of Emmanuel

Sing we the song of Emmanuel
This the Christ who was long foretold
Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem
Promise of dawn now our eyes behold.
God Most High in a manger laid
Lift your voices and now proclaim
Great and glorious, Love has come to us
Join now with the hosts of heaven

Come we to welcome Emmanuel
King who came with no crown or throne
Helpless He lay, the Invincible
Maker of Mary, now Mary's son
O what wisdom to save us all
Shepherds, sages, before Him fall
Grace and majesty, what humility
Come on bended knee, adore Him

Go spread the news of Emmauel
joy and peace for the weary heart.
Lift up your heads, for your King has come
Sing for the light overwhelms the dark.
Glory shining for all to see,
hope alive, let the gospel ring.
God has made a way, He will have the praise
Tell the world His name is Jesus.

The Dismissal

- P** And it is my prayer that your love may abound with knowledge and discernment,
- C** **so that we may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.**
- P** Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude by Mark and Phil

Acknowledgments

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Upcoming Service Schedule

12/11 – Mid-week Advent Service 9:00 am and 7:00 pm

12/18 – Mid-week Advent Service 9:00 am and 7:00 pm

12/24 – Christmas Eve – Candlelight Service – 4pm & 7pm

12/25 – Christmas Day – 10:00 am

Please join us for:

12/17 – 2:00 pm

Christmas Caroling at Ft Lauderdale Rehab

12/19 – 7:00 pm

All school musical – We Three Spies –

LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Your estate plan can enable you to express your Christian faith. Around the holidays, we do not want to become morbid, discussing topics that are difficult. But if the opportunity presents itself, consider sharing with family your confidence about care for your body at life's end, or the joy in your heart about directing God's things through your estate plan. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you talk through what you want to share. For assistance, contact Tony Hunt 260-222-1291 or tony.hunt@lfnd.org

Opportunities at Shepherd of the Coast

✠8:30 am – A traditional worship service in the classic Lutheran liturgical style.

✠9:30 am – Sunday School / 9:30 am – Adult Bible Study

✠10:30 am – Praise Service – A contemporary worship service that is geared to families with young children.

Wednesdays during Advent – 9:00 am service with school children
7:00 pm evening service

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