

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us Pray: Most High God,
you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. C **Amen.**

Sending

BLESSING: God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, ⁺ bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore. C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: #249 - *On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry* v 1,2,5

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son, whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

DISMISSAL P Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.
If Outside, Please Honk Your Horn !**

The Worship is ended—The Service begins!

***Children are encouraged to stay for Sunday School immediately
following the service! (Masks required)***

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Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mission statement: "We celebrate the Gospel of Jesus Christ by living and sharing His Word and caring for God's creation."



Pastor: Mary Anne Kingsborough
Pastor Emeritus: Thomas W. Rundell
Special welcome to Pastor Richard Jorgensen
Ministers:
All Members of the Congregation

Second Sunday in Advent December 5, 2021

**9:30am Indoor/Outdoor Service of Word and Sacrament
10:30-11:15am Sunday School**

Welcome to Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church

Columbia, Pennsylvania

Welcome, worshipers!

INDOOR

- Please sign in for indoor worship.
- Offering Basket in the back of the church.
- Entry/Exit through front doors only
- Please maintain social distancing between households.
- Please wear a mask over your nose and mouth (even if vaccinated)**
- Please sanitize your hands upon entering, bathroom usage, and exiting the building.
- Please be understanding!

OUTDOOR

TUNE TO 105.5 FM in car or portable radio.

If using auxiliary, start your car engine often to avoid draining the battery.

- To make this a safe and enjoyable service for everyone, please follow the following guidelines:

IF YOU PREFER, YOU MAY BRING LAWN CHAIRS AND SIT ON THE LAWN.

- You will be given **communion** elements as you park. Please leave them sealed until the Words of Institution. When asked to consume them, please peel back the very top to consume the wafer, and then carefully pull back the covering over the juice. ***Parents should help children. You may dispose of the containers.

At both services:

Prayer Requests - Please tell an usher.

Offerings may be placed in the basket upon leaving.

Donations for the **Food Bank** will also be accepted.

INTRODUCTION Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

PRELUDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us 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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. C Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION (Outside - Open Communion Elements) (Inside - Come Forward)

The Body of Christ, given for you. Amen. / The Blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Communion Hymn: #239 - Hark, the Glad Sound!

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace. Amen

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit And born of the virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence. *A brief silence.*

Each petition concludes with:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect.

Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

The Meal

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. C And also with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Amen

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Inside: (Please stand.)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, [†] one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait, in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.

We fail in believing that your good news is for us.

We falter in our call to tend your creation.

We find our sense of self in material wealth.

We fear those different from ourselves.

We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love.

Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, [†] your sins are forgiven.

You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. Amen.

GREETING The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love and peace of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Inside: (Please be seated.)

The Word

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means "my messenger") will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God's people, as silver and gold are refined.

Word of God! Word of Life!

C Thanks Be To God!

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
you have come to your people and set them free.
⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,**
born of the house of your servant David.
⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us
from our enemies,⁷¹ from the hands of all who hate us,
⁷²**to show mercy to our forebears,**
and to remember your holy covenant.
⁷³This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:
⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship you without fear,
⁷⁵**holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**
⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,
⁷⁷**to give God's people knowledge of salvation**
by the forgiveness of their sins.
⁷⁸In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the**
shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

Word of God! Word of Life! C Thanks Be To God!

In: (Please stand for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath.)

Light two_candles as congregation sings:

- 2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

Advent Prayer

Let us pray,
We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness.
Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the Third Chapter:

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

This is the Gospel of our Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ.

In: (Please be seated.)

Please welcome Pastor Richard Jorgensen

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

(Silence for reflection and prayer)

In: (Please Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY #264-Prepare the Royal Highway V 1,4

- 1 Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

- 4 His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: **Refrain**

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship
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