



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

If you are worshipping inside, please choose chairs that work for the number of people in your family.

If you are worshipping outside, you're welcome to sit wherever you are comfortable inside or outside of your car. Tune your vehicle radio to 96.5 FM to hear the service.

December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

LSB 584

- 1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.

- 2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold your glory
Give us ears to hear your Word.

Invocation

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

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

- P** The voice cries:
C "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight!"
P The Baptist names God's expectation:
C "Bear fruits in keeping with repentance."

- P** But we recognize that our lives are crooked, not straight. Our rough places are not level. Our lives do not demonstrate the proper fruit of repentance. And the word of judgment is upon us:
- C** **“Even 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.”**
- P** We join the crowds whose hearts were spurred by John and the Holy Spirit to ask the question:
- C** **“What then shall we do?”**
- P** And we find our answer not in the words of John the Baptist but in the words of John the beloved disciple:
- C** **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”**
- P** Merciful Father,
- C** **Have mercy on us.**
- P** Forgiving Lord Jesus,
- C** **Forgive our sin.**
- P** Sanctifying Spirit,
- C** **Sanctify our lives with your holiness.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

- P** In the stead and by the command of the Lord who John the Baptist proclaimed, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul explains to us what comes next: “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...and it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”
- C** **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

Kyrie (*Sung*)

LSB 152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

C This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever.
Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sharing of the Peace

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** And also with you.
- P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in

righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-11

³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may 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.

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 3:1-18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Tracónitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,

make straight paths for him.

⁵Every valley shall be filled in,

every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,

the rough ways smooth.

⁶And all people will see God's salvation.”

⁷John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping

with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰“What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

¹¹John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

¹³“Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

¹⁴Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

LSB 344

- 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.**
- 3 We hail thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away
Like flow’rs that wither and decay.**
- 4 Lay on the sick thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of thy face
Till beauty springs in ev’ry place.**
- 5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,**

Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

Homily

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \ddagger of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Preface

spoken

- 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

Sanctus

LSB 161

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

- C** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.

Come, Emmanuel

Choir

Savior of the Nations, Come

LSB 332

- 1 Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.
- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

- 3 Here a maid was found with child,
Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown:
God was there upon his throne.
- 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all
From his pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man,
His heroic course began.
- 5 God the Father was his source,
Back to God he ran his course.
Into hell his road went down,
Back then to his throne and crown.
- 6 For you are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.
- 7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.
- 8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

LSB 347

- 1 "Comfort, comfort ye my people,
Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;
"Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover
And her warfare now is over."
- 2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
Blotting out each dark misdeed;
All that well deserved his anger
He no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many_a day,
Now her griefs have passed away;

God will change her pining sadness
Into ever-springing gladness.

- 3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Calling sinners to repentance,
Since the Kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet him
And the hills bow down to greet him.
- 4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
Make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That his Word is never broken.

Arise, O Christian People

LSB 354

- 1 Arise, O Christian people!
Prepare yourselves today;
Prepare to greet the Savior,
Who takes your sins away.
To us by grace alone
The truth and light were given;
The promised Lord from heaven
To all the world is shown.
- 2 Prepare the way before him;
Prepare for him the best.
Cast out what would offend him,
This great, this heav'nly guest.
Make straight, make plain the way:
The lowly valleys raising,
The heights of pride abasing,
His path all even lay.
- 3 The humble heart and lowly
God raises up on high;
Beneath his feet in terror
The haughty soul shall lie.
The heart sincere and right,
That heeds God's invitation

And makes true preparation—
It is the Lord's delight.

- 4 Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus;
Turn not from me aside,
And help me to receive you
This blessed Adventtide.
From stall and manger low
Come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing your praises gladly
And forth your glory show.

Dismissal

Benediction

LSB 166

- 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.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

LSB 345

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!
"Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness,
All you children of the day!"
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all, to be forgiv'n;
- 4 So, when next he comes in glory
And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with his mercy
And with words of love draw near.
- 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion
To the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit
While eternal ages run!

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Serving in Worship This Morning

November 28, 2021

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Phil Marquardt

Reader:

Shari Pack

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays this week: Monica Lux 12/6, Jeff Parson 12/7, Jennifer Dangers 12/7, Charlotte Prescot 12/10, Josh Kretsch 12/10, Peter Welle 12/11 and Tim Welle 12/11.

Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays this week: Ally Bryntenson 12/5, Ben Johnson 12/5, Breanna Whipps 12/5, Olivia Eastlund 12/6, and Cheryl Herschman 12/11.

Celebrating Anniversaries this week: Art and Elaine Hayden 12/9.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:15 a.m.	Bake Sale
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
	6:45 p.m.	Advent Mid-Week Worship
	7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir
Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Grief Share
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Friday	6:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study

Notes of Information:

Youth Bake Sale- Today!!! The youth will be holding their annual bake sale. Come and partake in our goodies and get ready for your Christmas festivities. A special Thank You for sponsorship by Thrivent Action Team.

Women's Bible Study: On Monday, December 6, 2021, Women's Bible Study will be held in the Fellowship Hall. Linda Schwanbeck will be leading this month.

Fear Not! Christmas Choir Service: Join us on Sunday December 19, 2021 at 9 am for a wonderful music filled worship service led by our choir. Refreshment and fellowship to follow.

Church Library: The library is available for your use whenever the church is open. The only time it is closed is on Sundays between 10:45 and 11:30 a.m., when the room is used by the Sunday School, and occasionally when a group is meeting there. The fiction and non-fiction sections have been alphabetized and have begun to be checked out. Depending on feedback, the other sections, which have categorical color-coded tape on the spines, may be reorganized, or downsized. As space allows, donations of books may also be accepted. Especially popular, so far, are Christian fiction and non-fiction, such as biographies. Lois Spadgenske encourages your comments and/or questions at 763-757-5377 or SecondTim.1.5@Gmail.com.

Trinity First Lutheran School: *"Equipping Learners, Sharing Hope"*. Did you know that: 50% of Trinity First's students are from immigrant families, 51% don't have a church home, 47% receive special services (Special Ed & Title I), 77% qualify for free and reduced prices meals, and 88% are students of color? Last year enrollment was 116 students, with 4 graduating. Operating income from donations, and the Adopt a Student Scholarship Program totals 87%. Income from tuition and fees is 2%. Spirit of Christ continues to support Trinity First with 2% of our monthly First Fruits Mission offerings. Thank you for your generosity and continued prayers.

Qualified Charitable Donations (QCD): Are available for people 70 1/2 years or older. QCD's are donations from IRA's directly to the charity. Spirit of Christ is a qualified charity. The donations are nontaxable, but also not deductible as charitable donations. Check with your financial advisor for information.

Thrivent Choice Dollars: If you are eligible, you can specifically choose an organization, such as Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church. Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year. To direct those dollars, log onto <http://www.thrivent.com>. Under **What We Offer**, choose the **Generosity** tab. Then choose **Choice Dollars**.

2022 Calendars and Cards: SoC youth have 2022 calendars, Christmas cards, greeting cards and note pads for sale. Cards are available in the Narthex after worship.

Adopt-A-Student: Spirit of Christ will be helping support a first year Seminarian, through the Adopt-A-Student program, at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. We have been assigned newlyweds Jonathan and Stephanie Chapa, who were both raised in central Minnesota. They are both recent graduates of Concordia University in Nebraska, with degrees in education. After a summer of Greek classes, Jonathan has started introductory fall classes, and is involved at his field work church, where Stephanie is working in their Early Childhood Center. Jonathan is also volunteering at Christian Friends of New Americans. Please pray for perseverance and determination for them, and that the Holy Spirit would move and work in the hearts of the adults and children they are serving.

Stewardship: is the expression of our desire as Christians to contribute to the mission and ministry of the church. Serving and giving are important parts of our Christian life. We are equipped to give of ourselves through gifts of time, talent, and treasure. St. Paul reminds us, "We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His appeal thru us." 2 Corinthians 5:20.

Grief Share: Grief Share is a grief recovery support group that has meetings across the country and worldwide. Spirit of Christ began its own Grief Share group that will meet Thursdays from 3-5pm. We are asking \$15 free will donation to cover the cost of the workbook. Please contact Pam Birkholz at 612-270-1623 with any questions or to reserve your spot.

NACE: Do you know someone in need of food? NACE is expanding their Home Delivery Program and would like to help those who may not be able to drive or find a ride to the food shelf. The Delivery Program brings a complete grocery order right to your door, including produce, bakery, meats, dairy, canned goods, and hygiene products. If you or someone you know could benefit from NACE Home Delivery please call Katie @763-434-7685 or e mail at kritchel@nacefoodshelf.org

The clothing closet is looking for clean fall clothing and back to school clothing. Always needed at the food shelf are the hygiene products and individual items for the weekend packs. Let me know if you have any questions. Joan Mager 763-434-9652.

Sermons and bulletins posted online: Audio recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly at soclc.org. Check them out if you are not able to make it to drive in worship or would like to avoid a paper bulletin!

Main Street Living: Main Street Living is a Lutheran Television program that is endorsed by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The broadcast has two parts. Remastered episodes of the Emmy award-winning Lutheran Hour Ministries "This is the Life" program was originally aired from the 1950's to the 1980's. This program has been re-mastered to the modern format. The Worship Service is produced locally and features a different presenter each week selected from the Pastors in each broadcast area. 9 + Sunday Mornings at 9 am.

Offerings via Give+: Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at soclc.org to sign up or learn more.

'The Lutheran Hour' can be heard at 6:00 a.m. Sundays on WCCO radio

November 28, 2021	
Average Offering	\$5294
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	<i>\$5921</i>

Readings for next week:

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 7:18-28

Serving in Worship Next Week:

Advent Service

December 8, 2021

Elder:

Phil Hagel

Reader:

Monica Lux

Sunday Worship

December 12, 2021

Elder:

Justin Miller

Reader:

Peggy Peterson



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

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Ham Lake, MN 55304

www.soclc.org

**Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people,
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.**

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