



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

December 11, 2022

Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333

- 1** Once he came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly,
Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.

- 2** Now he gently leads us;
With himself he feeds us
Precious food from heaven,
Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.

- 3** Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
Christ will come in splendor
And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing
Joy beyond comparing.

- 4** Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing,
That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess you
Till in heav’n we bless you.

Stand

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 prophet Isaiah speaks of the future that God opens for his people. He says “A highway will be there; it will be called the Way of holiness; it will be for those who walk on that way.

C **The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.”**

P We know that the way we have followed has often been anything but the way of holiness.

C **We have been unclean, wicked, and foolish in our words and actions.**

P But we know that God means to bring us back to his Way of holiness, because the prophet tells of God doing exactly that:

C **“But only the redeemed will walk there, and those the LORD has rescued will return.”**

P Lord God,

C **Rescue and redeem us from our sin.**

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

P Jesus the Messiah has come into our world to seek and save the lost, to redeem sinners, and to restore those who have wandered – including you. Therefore 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. Worship in peace, walking his way!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Pax Domini

P Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace.

C **And the God of love and peace will be with you.** (*2 Corinthians 13:11,14*)

P May the peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Kyrie

Spoken

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.**

This Is the Feast

- C** *Refrain*
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. Refrain

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. Refrain

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. Refrain

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Refrain

Sit

First Reading

- ³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
Isaiah 35:3-6a
- ⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,
“Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you.”
- ⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
- ⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.
- ¹⁸ In that day the deaf will hear the words of the scroll,
and out of gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind will see.
Isaiah 29:18
- ¹⁹ But your dead will live, LORD;
their bodies will rise—
Isaiah 26:19
let those who dwell in the dust
wake up and shout for joy—

your dew is like the dew of the morning;
the earth will give birth to her dead.

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,

Isaiah 61:1-2

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

James 5:7-10

⁷Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

¹⁰Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

⁴Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

⁷As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who

wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.”

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LSB 338

1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Homily

Stand

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 catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

Prayers of the Church

Presentation of the Offering

Please sign the Friendship Register located on each pew and pass it to others seated with you so that we may have a record of all those who are worshipping and receiving communion with us today.

Stand

Preface

- 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.**

Sit

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.

Savior of the Nations Come

Bell Choir

From God the Father, Virgin-Born

LSB 401 (Tune 461)

- 1 From God the Father, virgin-born
To us the only Son came down;
By death the font to consecrate,
The faithful to regenerate.
- 2 Beginning from his home on high,
In human flesh he came to die;
Creation by his death restored,
And shed new joys of life abroad.
- 3 Glide on, O glorious Sun, and bring
The gift of healing on your wing;
To ev'ry dull and clouded sense
The clearness of your light dispense.
- 4 Abide with us, O Lord, we pray;
The gloom of darkness chase away;
Your work of healing, Lord, begin,
And take away the stain of sin.

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

LSB 631

- 1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon thee lean.
- 2 Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

- 3 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with thee.
- 4 I have no help but thine; nor do I need
Another arm but thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in thy might, thy might alone.
- 5 Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

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,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With thy belovèd name.

Dismissal

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

- C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

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.

Hark the Glad Sound

LSB 349

- 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,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With thy belovèd name.

Announcements

Sending

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship This Morning

December 11, 2022

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Justin Miller and Kevin Zimmerman

Reader:

Wayne Chambard

Usher:

Randy Herschman

Organist

Karine Platt

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Peter Welle 12/11, Tim Welle 12/11, John Riebe 12/12, Jerry Berg 12/15, Shelby Parson 12/15 and Sue Anderson 12/16.

Celebrating Baptism: Cheryl Herschman 12/11, Jerry Berg 12/15, Gwen Mikish 12/16, Rick Welle 12/16, Betty Meyers 12/17, Jude Miller 12/17 and Kyra Bellrichard 12/17.

Weekly Prayer Requests:

1. **Giving Tree-** Father, we are so grateful that you supply all that we need in abundance. Thank you for moving our hearts to support others in our community with the things that they need. We pray for all the individuals that are on our giving tree this season, may they see you through our work as your hands and feet.
2. **Life by Design Inc-** Lord, we pray that our partnership with the community of Life by Design will continue to grow. Help us to have hearts who are willing to welcome your people of all abilities into your space here.
3. **Caregivers-** Dear God, strengthen the caregivers in our community and beyond. Remind them that you are present and with them always. Urge them to reach out for help if needed and make us aware of their needs so that we may offer that help.
4. **Children-** Lord, thank you for the gift of new life and the opportunity to shape and mold the youth of this generation. Help them to remember the reason for the season is not the material things that are under the tree but your eternal love. Inspire us to continue to teach them and humble us to learn from them.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:15 a.m.	Bake Sale part 2
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
	2:00 p.m.	LBDI private party fellowship hall
	7:00 p.m.	Elder Meeting
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	6:30 p.m.	Advent Worship
	7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Choir rehearsal
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Choir-led Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	4:00 p.m.	<i>Not So Silent Night</i> Children's Program.

Notes of Information:

Choir Led Worship Service: Next Sunday there will be a Choir-led worship service to musically celebrate the coming of our Lord.

Children's Program: The Sunday School classes will be presenting *Not So Silent Night*, a Christmas program on December 18th at 4 pm in the Sanctuary, treats to follow the performance.

Apocrypha Sunday Night Study: Beginning Jan. 8th, we will gather on Sunday evenings to study CPH's *The Apocrypha: The Lutheran Edition with Notes*. These are writings that span the time between the Old and New Testaments. They are considered inspired scripture by our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters, and Martin Luther called them "profitable and good to read." The list cost of the book is \$45, but we will get a bulk discount on the books from CPH, and we are asking that participants pay half the discounted cost of the book (approximately \$19). Please sign up in the narthex if you are interested in participating!

SOC Book Club: SOC Book Club – The book club will not meet in December, they will resume meeting on January 23, 2023 at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. January's book is *China Doll* by Lisa See. All are invited to attend. If you have questions, please reach out to Joan Mager at 763-434-9652.

Soup Supper: If you are interested in providing soup for Advent soup suppers, please contact Jonelle Welle at 612-508-4710.

Life by Design Christmas Gifts: The Fellowship Committee has partnered with Life by Design- Inc, which is a local agency who provides services to disabled individuals in Anoka County. Some of the individuals who they serve do not have families and often do not have any Christmas gifts. There is a list of needs in the Narthex, if you are moved to, please take a card from the list, and bring the item back to church. There are some individuals whose needs list includes things like gift cards for haircuts or gas cards. If you would like to contribute cash, please give your donation to Renee Chambard or Laura Marquardt.

Pledge Cards: There are additional pledge cards in the Narthex if you are moved to prayerfully consider your giving for the upcoming year.

Winter coats needed for NACE: NACE needs winter coats, especially for men. If you have coats you would like to donate, please bring them into the Narthex and we will make sure that they get to NACE.

LWML Byte: The Lutheran Church is making a comeback in Siberia and Russia. The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Norvosibirsk, Siberia, is training pastors and deaconesses to share the Gospel. For information and how to help go to: lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-7. Please pray for and support this mission- God is on the move!!

Nursery: The nursery is open, and the sound is working. If you have a restless child, please feel free to use this space.

Mercy Ministry: Mercy Ministry is asking for your help. If you or someone you know could use assistance in either of the two following areas - Transportation: Doctor's visits, Shopping, Groceries, Other or Personal: Spiritual needs, Home Visits, Meals, Other, please contact the church office: 763 755-7234 or secretary@socl.org.

Reflections on Stewardship: As people of faith, we are pilgrims on a journey, caretakers of the gifts God has given us. Stewardship means accepting God's gifts gratefully, tending them responsibly, and sharing them with love. Stewardship is an expression of faith. When we practice Stewardship, we recognize God as the origin of life, the source of all we have, all we are, all we will become. Psalm 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

Calendars and Greeting Cards: The youth group will be selling greeting cards, notepads and 2023 calendars starting next Sunday, November 6th. Calendars and Greeting Cards will be \$8, and notepads will be \$4.

T- shirts are available: SOC T-shirts commemorating our 40th anniversary are available for purchase. The cost of the shirts is \$20, we have youth sizes and adult sizes available. See Laura for your shirt today!

Sermons and bulletins posted online: Audio and video recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly. Bulletins and past sermons can be found at www.spiritofchristhamlake.org

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

December 4, 2022	
Average Offering	\$6346
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6335

Readings for next week:

Isaiah 7:1-10, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25


Please join the Sunday School Youth for their production of

The Not So Silent Night

Sunday December 18 at 4 p.m.

with treats and fellowship time to follow.

“Follow three young shepherds who joyfully shout God's praises after visiting the baby Jesus. How were they to know they were "disturbing the peace?" You'll join them in a Bethlehem courtroom for a hilarious trial and a surprising verdict!”



Spirit of Christ Singers
Invite you to ...

“The Thrill of Hope”

Sunday, December 18th 9 am

Choir-led worship hour

Come, and Worship! Pass the promise!
Proclaim the Hope! The Peace!
The Incredible Love!
The Revelation of God's glory!

Jesus! For you and for me!



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd
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www.Spiritofchristhamlake.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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