



*Second Sunday in Advent*  
*St. John's Lutheran Church*  
 Red Bud, Illinois  
December 8-9, 2018



**THE PRELUDE:** “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” *arranged by Benjamin M. Culli*

**THE RINGING OF THE BELL** calls us to holy worship.

**OPENING HYMN: 344 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**  
*(please stand for the last stanza if able, sung “A-men.”)*

*Divine Service Four, page 203ff.*

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:** page 203 *(please stand if you are able)*

*We Share God’s Peace With and Greet One Another*

**INTROIT:** Psalm 81



The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.”  
 Hear, O My people, while I admonish you! O Israel, if you would but listen to Me!  
 I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

But My people did not listen to My voice; Israel would not submit to Me.  
 Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways!  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.”

**KYRIE:** (page 204) *(sung)* Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

(We omit the **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** during the Advent season.)

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:**

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

P: Let us pray. C: 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 the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(please be seated)*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:**

**Malachi 3:1-7b**

“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. But 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. He 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. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

“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. “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.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

**THE GRADUAL:**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.  
 righteous and having salvation.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless You.

**THE EPISTLE READING:**

**Philippians 1:2-11**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And 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.

It 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. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

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. P: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

*(please stand if able)* **ALLELUIA and VERSE:** (page 205) *(sung)*

**Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.**

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL:**

**Luke 3:1-14**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.      **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

In 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, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

As 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. Every 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, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

He 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? Bear 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. 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.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” Soldiers 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.” P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: CREED**

*(10:30 a.m.)* **The Nicene Creed: page 206**    *(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.)* **The Apostles’ Creed: page 207**

*(please be seated)* **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE SONG** *(5 p.m. and 8 a.m.)*

**Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope, He brings hope to ev-‘ry heart, He comes! He comes! Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace, He brings peace to ev-‘ry heart, He comes! He comes! Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy, Ev-‘ry nation will find salvation in Beth-l’em’s baby boy. Light one candle for love, one bright candle for love, He brings love to ev-‘ry heart, He comes! He comes! He brings love to ev-‘ry heart, He comes! He comes!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: 838 “The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place”**

**SERMON:** “A Prayer for the Past, Present and Future” Philippians 1:2-11

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** *(please stand if you are able)*

*(Each petition ends “Lord, in Your mercy” and we respond, “hear our prayer.”)*

HEALING AND COMFORT: Leonard Vogt, Olivia Schmitz, Arlin Winkelman, Kenneth Koester, Jean Menke, June Lawrence, C. John Prigge, Joan Wiegand, Jim Guebert, Roger Hanebutt, Jane Donjon, Alice Guebert, Wayne Liefer, Stuart Langrehr, Tim Deien, Kathy Liefer, Susie Harms; Jonathan Koen, Addelyn Rahn; *Family and Friends of St. John’s Members:* Lori Voges, Brenda Manning, Derrick DeWilde, Robin Steinmann, Bobby Wood, Kate Snyder, Bob Stirnaman, Ruby Muench, Danielle Anderson, Ruth Hecht, Henry Hunter, Sheri Boothe, Alan Deterding, John Hudak, Jennifer King, Margarete Schrader. *Help us keep this list current!*

MILITARY: (Please call with the names to include in prayer.) Army- Nathan Koen, Jonathan Koen, Tim Healy, Christopher Dupertius, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Casey Vallett, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Dustin Krack, Austin Scheibe, Trevor Buckner, Jessica DeMarco; Navy- Brad Koester, Carl Muehler; Air Force- Brian Hubbard, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, Terry Koester, David Livingston, Matt Sabo, Ryan Kozarich, Tanner Hackstadt, Ched Wagner; Marines- Alex Renner, Cody Koch, Tailor Neuhaus, Josh Butterworth, Brent Knop, Thomas Lewis

+those who mourn: the family of Janet Davis, mother of St. John’s member Tracy Vallett

*(please be seated)*

**OFFERING:** “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”      *arranged by Kenneth T. Kosche*

*The 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. services end with the Lord’s Prayer, a Closing Prayer, and Benediction.*

*(10:30 a.m.)* **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:** page 208ff.

**PREFACE and SANCTUS:** page 208

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER:** page 209

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:** page 209

**THE PAX DOMINI:**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.      **C: Amen.**

**THE AGNUS DEI:** page 210

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:** *(please be seated)*

334 “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You” *(alternate tune)*

341 “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

621 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

**NUNC DIMITTIS:** “Song of Simeon” page 211

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:** page 212

**BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION:** page 212

**CLOSING HYMN: 338 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

**THE POSTLUDE:** “The Saints In Christ Are One in Every Place”

*arranged by Gerald Near*

*Acknowledgments* Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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