

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
Red Bud, Illinois
Midweek Advent Service II
December 9, 2020 7 p.m.

Pre-service Christmas Carol: "O Christmas Tree"

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree! Thy leaves are so unchanging;
 Not only green when summer's here, But also when 'tis cold and drear.
 O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree! Thy leaves are so unchanging!**

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree! Much pleasure thou can'st give me;
 How often has the Christmas tree Afforded me the greatest glee!
 O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree! Much pleasure thou can'st give me.**

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree! Thy candles shine so brightly!
 From base to summit, gay and bright, There's only splendor for the sight.
 O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree! Thy candles shine so brightly!**

"God Rest You Merry Gentlemen"

**God rest you merry gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
 Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas Day;
 To save us all from Satan's power When we were gone astray.
 O tid-ings of com-fort and joy, com-fort and joy, O tid-ings of com-fort and joy.**

**In Bethlehem, in Jewry, This blessed Babe was born,
 And laid within a manger, Upon this blessed morn;
 This birth His mother Mary Did nothing take in scorn.
 O tid-ings of com-fort and joy, com-fort and joy, O tid-ings of com-fort and joy.**

**From God our heavenly Father, A blessed angel came;
 And unto certain Shepherds Brought tidings of the same:
 How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name.
 O tid-ings of com-fort and joy, com-fort and joy, O tid-ings of com-fort and joy.**

The Prelude: "Once He Came in Blessing" *arranged by Ronald A. Nelson*
 The Ringing of the Bell calls us to holy worship.

Opening Hymn: 359 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
 mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
 air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
 woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
 where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
 know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
 death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

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Order of Worship: Evening Prayer, page 243ff.

Service of Light Please stand if you are able

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

Cong. (sung) the light no dark-ness can o-ver-come.

P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening.

C: (sung) and the day is al-most o-ver.

P: Let Your light scatter the darkness

C: (sung) and il-lu-mine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron

P: Joy-ous light of glo-ry:



C of the im-mor-tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,
 bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the
 set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.
 We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:
 You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -
 ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:
 the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

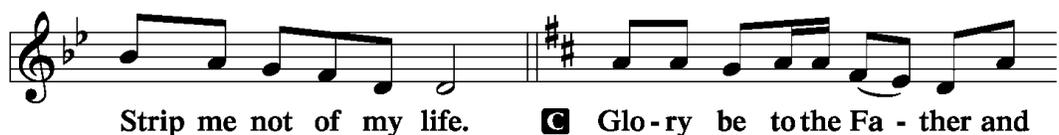
P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation

C and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated Psalmody: Psalm 141



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,





to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

L Let us pray. Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever. C **Amen.**

The Responsive Psalm Reading: Psalm 25:1-5

P: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

C: O my God, in You I trust;

P: let me not be put to shame;

C: let not my enemies exult over me.

P: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame;

C: they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

P: Make me to know Your ways, O LORD;

C: teach me Your paths.

P: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation;

C: for You I wait all the day long.

P: Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love,

C: for they have been from of old.

P: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C: according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness.

ALL: 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 Readings and Responses: Acts 18:5-10

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. ⁶And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” ⁷And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. ⁹And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, “Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are My people.” L: O Lord, have mercy on us. **C: Thanks be to God.**

(please stand if you are able) Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw Him they worshiped Him, but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

L: O Lord, have mercy on us. **C: Thanks be to God.**

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son. *(please be seated)*

THEME HYMN: 333 “Once He Came in Blessing”



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour_____ When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Sermon: "Jesus Comes"

Magnificat: 934 "My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
 maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
 those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
 leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.
 light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
 tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
 el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

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Prayer: page 249 *Please stand if able (spoken)*

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L 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.

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our synodical and district president, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our nation's president, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who are ill and seeking healing and those who are suffering from natural and manmade turmoil [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*], let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Thanks be to God

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. *Silence for individual prayer*

L Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C To You, O Lord.

Collect For Peace

L O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

L Taught by our Lord and trusting in 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.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord. C (*sung*) **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. C (*sung*) **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: 883 "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night" (*sing "A-men"*)



1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the
 2 For - give me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that
 3 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as
 4 Oh, may my soul in Thee re - pose, And may sweet



bles - ings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,
 I this day have done, That with the world, my -
 lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die that
 sleep mine eye - lids close, Sleep that shall me more



King of kings, Be - neath Thine own al - might - y wings.
 self, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
 so I may Rise glo - rious at the awe - full day.
 vig - 'rous make To serve my God when I a - wake!

5 When in the night I sleepless lie,
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No pow'rs of darkness me molest.

6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men. Public domain

Postlude: "Savior of the Nations, Come" *arranged by Charles W. Ore*

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Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher/Liturgist: Pastor Mark Nebel Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak
Acolyte: Sage Pensoneau

MIDWEEK ADVENT services continue next Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. under our theme, "The Three-fold Coming of Christ." Next week we will focus on "Jesus Will Come" to us in His end time return. Next Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. will be our Nursery-Grades 1 Sunday School Christmas Service.

Poinsettias for Christmas 2020

We will again decorate our church with poinsettias for Christmas. The cost is \$7.00 each. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, please fill out the section below and return it to the church office by Friday, December 18, with your money. Poinsettias may be designated in memory or in honor of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a special occasion, etc.

Given by: _____

Circle one: In Memory of: In Recognition of: In Thanksgiving for:

