



WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on mute*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

NEW LOOK FOR THE BULLETIN: The two pictures at the top of the bulletin are the church's logo and the LCMC logo. The church's logo is the descent of the Holy Spirit into 'Our Savior' at the time of His Baptism.

MISSION MOMENT: I will be sharing what I learned at the LCMC Annual Gathering with you in the near future. It will mean we take steps to move more in a new direction to serve our neighbors. Thank you for helping Peggie Sue and me to attend the convention and see our families in Omaha.

We Serve Today:

Reader: Bubbles Burress

Offering: Jeff Cisco, Tony Alonzo

Communion: Bev Wilgus, Geri McGary, Jeanne Keyser

Greeter: Jean Mennenga

We Serve Next Sunday:

Reader: Jeanne Keyser

Offering: Jeff Cisco, Tony Alonzo

Communion: Bev Wilgus, Geri McGary, Jeanne Keyser

Greeter: Jean Mennenga

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SERVICE OF THE WORD

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME: *Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements*

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER - *congregational responses in BOLD*

Pastor: Lord, we approach your altar this Advent Season with with love for You and our concern for the price you paid for us on the cross. We realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to your sacrifice. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus on His cross, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by the authority of Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Alleluia and Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN: 78 Hark the Glad Sound the Savior Comes

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of your only-begotten Son, that at his second coming we may worship him in purity; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Alleluia.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us. Alleluia and Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10 (ESV)

The Righteous Reign of the Branch

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7 (ESV) (Recited whole verse by whole verse – Congregation in *Bold*)

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!

May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!

Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!

May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!

May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!

In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen

EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 15:4-13 (ESV)

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.
Christ the Hope of Jews and Gentiles

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name."

And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Please rise for the singing of the Alleluia.

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd Chapter.

Glory to You oh Lord!

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume 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.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you oh Christ!

SERMON 'The Candle of Peace' - Pastor Steve Dygert + STS

SERMON HYMN: 363 It is Well with My Soul

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the 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 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 on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

"And I believe in the Holy Ghost, 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 of the world to come. Amen."

THE OFFERING: Offertory - I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day – Dean Carson

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER: SHARING OF THE PEACE:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

And also with you. *Greet those around you with the Peace of the Lord.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF PRAISE: Let us Pray: *(Prayer Response)* **Lord in your Mercy: Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: 572 Will the Circle Be Unbroken – *Repeat until we stop!*

THE AARONIC BENEDICTION & Let There Be Peace On Earth

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony

Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

Christmas Carols:

134 Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella, 98 Angels from the Realms of Glory vs 1,3,5

THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God

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Bible Study 2: Wednesdays 10 A.M. At OSLC