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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.

THE MEANING OF THE TWO PICTURES IN 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.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: We will be celebrating the birth of our Lord at 6 pm with a Christmas Carol Hymn Fest. Please join us for a wonderful evening!

THANK YOU: A big thank you for Bev Cisco for the purchase of our new Christmas tree. Also to Bubbles Buress for the addition of her mother's homemade Christmas decorations. Let them know how much we appreciate their gifts!

We Serve Today: TBA

Reader: Offering: Communion: Greeter:

SERVICE OF THE WORD - Second Sunday in Advent

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME: Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements **CONFESSIONAL PRAYER** - congregational responses in **BOLD**

Pastor: Lord, we approach your altar 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.

1 John 1:8-9

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

<u>Pastor</u>: 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: 79 Hail to the Lord's Anointed vs 1,3,5 THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):

P: Let us pray.

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Almighty God, through John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, you once proclaimed salvation; now grant that we may know this salvation and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the the days of our lives: 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, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Alleluia and Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-11 (ESV)

Comfort for God's People
40 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

3 A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

The Word of God Stands Forever

6 A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

- 7 The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.
- **8** The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

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The Greatness of God

9 Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

10 Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

11 He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

PSALM: Psalm 85 **(ESV)** (Recited whole verse by whole verse – Congregation in **Bold)**

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.

- **85** LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
- **3** You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
- 4 Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!
- **5** Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- 6 Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- **7** Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.
- 8 Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.
- **9** Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

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- 10 Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- **11** Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- 12 Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- **13** Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

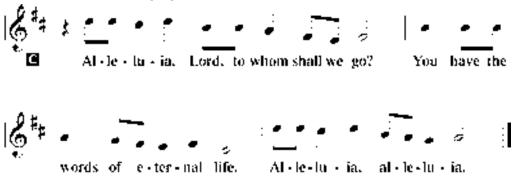
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Corinthian 1:3-9 (ESV)

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, 5 that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge — 6 even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please rise for the singing of the Alleluia. John 6:6-8



THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8 (ESV)

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

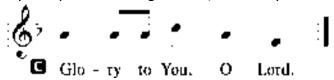
- **1** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- 2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet]
- "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way,
- **3** the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

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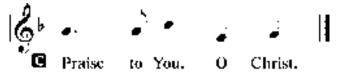
'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,"

4 John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. **6** Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. **7** And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. **8** I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The Holy Gospel according to St., the Chapter.



This is the Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON "Peace" - Pastor Steve Dygert + STS

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 1:2*

SERMON HYMN: 362 Blessed Assurance

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

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sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen."

Rite of Friendship:

- P. The Peace of the Lord Be With You.
- C. And Also With You.
- P. Please share the peace of the Lord with those around you.

 During Covid, share the peace by remaining in your chairs and waving at those around you.
- P. We now have the opportunity to share back with the Lord a little of the bounty He has shared with us.

OFFERTORY HYMN: Psalm 51:10-12



THE OFFERING: Offertory - 86 Of the Father's Love Begotten vs 1,2,4

We will stand for verse 4 because it is about the Trinity of our God.

As the offering is brought forward we will sing the Doxology,
written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you. 2nd Timothy 4:22

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. Psalm 136

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise

P: It is indeed good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,

and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when he comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and arch angels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS:

1 Holy, Holy, Holy vs 1, Revelation 4:8

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God, Almighty Early in the morning, our song shall rise to Thee Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty God in three persons, blessed Trinity

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PRAYERS OF PRAISE: Let us Pray: (Prayer Response) Lord in your Mercy: Hear our prayer. THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and forever. Amen

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE:

WORDS OF INSTITUTION: Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1st Corinthians 11:23-25

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said; "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same manner, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to the them saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. 1st Corinthians 11:26

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER:

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING HYMN: 82 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence vs 1,3

THE AARONIC BENEDICTION:

CHRISTMAS CAROLS:

83 Once in Royal David's City vs 1,6; 93 Hark the Herald Angels Sing vs 1,3

THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God

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