

Welcome! We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

- Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers.
- Printed copies of the sermon are available on the tract desk.
- Large Pring Service binders can be found on the tract desk.
- For a personal preparation for Holy Communion, please see pages 295-296 in your hymnal.

Please note: the Sunday service is being recorded and streamed on

YouTube.www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar

Our Lord teaches in his Word that in Communion we receive Jesus' true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine, and that participation is also a declaration that we believe what our fellow communicants believe. In obedience to God's Word, then, we ask that only those who agree on all points of teaching—those who belong to a WELS or ELS church—and are confirmed partake in the Lord's Supper today. If you are not a member of a WELS or ELS church but

would like to pursue that unity of faith, or if you have questions, please speak with Pastor.

†

† We thank Pastor em. Marcus Manthey for leading our worship and for his message from God's Word.

Setting 3, p. 188

309 The Advent of Our King

CW 309

- 1 The advent of our King
our prayers must now employ,
and we must hymns of welcome sing
in strains of holy joy.
- 2 The everlasting Son,
in flesh content to be,
himself a servant's form puts on
to set his servants free.
- 3 O Zion's daughter, rise
to meet your lowly King,
nor let a faithless heart despise
the peace he comes to bring.
- 4 As judge, on clouds of light,
he soon will come again
and his true members all unite
with him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
let sin's dark deeds be gone,
the old self all be put away,
the new self now put on.

Please stand for the final stanza

6 All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
through all eternity.

Text: tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749
Text: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the
Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count
against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

**We have followed what we have devised and
desired in our hearts.**

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

Refrain: Glory to God in the highest, glory to God, and peace to his people on earth, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Refrain*

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Be seated)

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14–16

¹⁴Listen, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the good promises that I have spoken to the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.

¹⁵In those days and at that time,

I will cause a righteous Branch to grow up from David's line.

He will establish justice and righteousness on earth.

¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely.

This is what she will be called:
The LORD Our Righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

24 Welcome the King of Glory

Psalm 24

Refrain

**Welcome the King of glory, each tribe and nation!
He is the LORD Almighty, bringing salvation.**

The earth is the LORD's, and every- / thing in it,
the world, and all who / live in it;
for he founded it / on the seas
and established it on the / waters.

Who may ascend the mountain / of the LORD?

Who may stand in his / holy place?

The one who has clean hands and a / pure heart,
they will receive blessing from God their / Savior.

Refrain

Lift up your heads, you gates; be lifted up, you / ancient
doors,
that the King of glory / may come in.

Who is this King of / glory?

The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in / battle.

Lift up your heads, you gates; lift them up, you / ancient doors,

that the King of glory / may come in.

Who is he, this King of / glory?

The LORD Almighty—he is the King of / glory.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

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Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9–13

⁹Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? ¹⁰Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, ¹³so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our

God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 22:20



of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

²⁸But when these things begin to happen, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is near.”

²⁹He told them a parable. “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they are sprouting leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is actually near. ³¹So also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Amen I tell you: This generation will not pass away until all these things happen. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁴“Watch yourselves or else your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and the worries of this life, and that day may come on you suddenly. ³⁵For it will come like a trap on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Stay alert all the time, praying that you may be able to escape all these things that are going to happen and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Be seated)

301 Savior of the Nations, Come

CW 301

1 Savior of the nations, come;
Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
that the Lord chose such a birth.

2 Not by human flesh and blood,
by the Spirit of our God
was the Word of God made flesh,
woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

3 Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child
of the virgin undefiled,
though by all the world disowned,
yet to be in heav'n enthroned!

4 From the Father's throne he came
and ascended to the same,
captive leading death and hell.
High the song of triumph swell!

5 Praise to God the Father sing,
praise to God the Son, our King,
praise to God the Spirit be
ever and eternally.

Text: tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–1876, alt.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; Ambrose of Milan, 340–397, abr.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Good News from a Bad News Prophet

I. News pinned to a gracious promise

II. News pointing to a glorious fulfillment

(Stand)

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son
of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from
true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from
heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin
Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate.**

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son

is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Be seated)

Prayer of the Church

Offering

THE SACRAMENT

(Stand)

Preface

CW 199

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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;

**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.

Words of Institution

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed,
took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it
and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is
my † body, which is given for you. Do this in
remembrance of me."**

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God

CW 202

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, grant us peace.

(Be seated)

Distribution

(As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:)

Take and eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, poured out for the forgiveness of your sins.

(As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:)

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace. **Amen.**

320 As Angels Joyed with One Accord

CW 320

1 As angels joyed with one accord
upon the advent of our Lord,
so let us gladly praise the name
of him who from the Father came.

2 He came, not clothed in majesty
nor pow'r that suits his deity.
In lowly state he walked till he
in dying set us captives free.

3 This done, he soared to God's right hand,
yet orphaned not his chosen band,
for he, not bound in grace and pow'r,
attends his own each day and hour.

4 In ev'ry age—let praise abound—
he comes; we hear his voice resound.
His glorious gospel does not cease
to bring us comfort, joy, and peace.

5 He comes in water to the child
and cleanses it, from birth defiled.
This washing seals his pard'ning grace
and shows the Father's kindly face.

6 He comes to us in bread and wine
to give himself and gifts divine.

O praise him for this sacrament,
redeeming love's great testament!

7 Lift up your heads! All grief and pain
shall vanish when he comes again.

Where we shall see him face to face,
there joy alone shall have a place.

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905–1996, abr., alt.

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(Stand)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

313 Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

CW 313

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,
your welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your belovèd name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751, abr., alt.

Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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MESSAGE BOARD

Symbolism of the Advent Candles

The first advent candle that we light today is called the Prophecy Candle (sometimes also called the Hope Candle). The candle can be either violet or blue. It reminds us of all of the Old Testament prophecies

Christmas Church and Grounds Decorating: Please plan to enjoy this event with your brothers and sisters in Christ. **December 8th following Bible Class.**

Wreath Makers: St. Luke's would like to hang a 36" Christmas wreath by the bench outside of the Fellowship Hall. Do we have any DIY rockstars that would be willing to make one?

Operation JOY: This year's collections for Operation JOY will take place December 1 – December 18th. These donations will be given to St. Luke's Shut-ins. Suggestions for giving: puzzles, crosswords, ChapStick, lotion, adult coloring books, candies, etc.

Befriend our Missionaries Families: December is St. Luke's turn to focus on our assigned

missions/missionaries through personal correspondence and prayer. Below the bulletin board near the church office is a list of overseas missionary children attending school in the USA. Please take a copy and send a Christmas greeting and words of encouragement to these young men and woman who are so far from their immediate families. Perhaps you might also consider a gift card along with your good wishes.

Common Cup: A couple of members had expressed interest in having the common cup back as an option for Holy Communion. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Arnold or email him at revmra@gmail.com.

Poinsettia Orders: Order forms can be found on the radiator by the office. Contact Heidi Krause with questions. Place you completed form in Heidi's mailbox.

Meditations: The newest meditation book is available. It begins Dec. 1st. They are in the office.

Calling All Bakers: Cookie Exchange!!! The cookie exchange will take place on December 8th in the fellowship hall following the morning service. Please

make at least 5 dozen servings for the swap, we want to be sure there are enough for all participants. The church will provide boxes to take home your goodies!

Excellent Christmas Gift! \$ 12.99- Lutheran Book of Prayer is a fantastic gift for anyone. **These will be ordered soon so get your request in.** Events happen all the time, good, bad or otherwise. As Christians we look to the Lord in prayer to celebrate, to grieve, to give thanks, and much more. **Contact the church office with orders: 989-823-7923**

Light up a Student's Life:- Information is available on the MLS Bulletin Board by the bathrooms. Please consider donating to assist these enthusiastic young Christians the financial ability to continue their education.

MLS Christmas Concert: Join us at Michigan Lutheran Seminary on **December 20 at 7 pm for our annual Christmas concert, "Worship Christ, the Newborn King."** The choirs and instrumentalists will share new and familiar carols that will surely enrich your Christmas celebration. Doors will open at 6:30, and there is no reserved seating. A freewill offering will be gathered for the music department.

HAPPENING SOON

Sunday 12/01	9:00 AM Communion
Worship Service	
Monday 12/02	7:00 PM Communion
Worship Service	
Tuesday 12/03	6:30 PM Mega Meeting
Thursday 12/05	7:00 PM Sunday School
Teacher's Meeting	
Sunday 12/08	9:00 AM Worship Service
Monday 12/09	7:00 PM Worship Service

December Sunday Ushers: John Solgat, Mike Hecht, Nate Rupprecht, Grant Barnes

December Communion Elder: Dec. 1-Phil Pellar, Dec. 15-Paul Schultz, Christmas Day-David Atkins

December Monday Usher: Barry Mays

December Finance: Jeremy LaPratt, Nick Hubbard

December Altar Guild: Marian Whitney and Pat Mecham

Organist: Olivia Marker

Sunday Service: 119, Sunday School: 15

Monday Service: 21

For 2024, the planned giving needed is \$7,910.00 per week to meet our ministry goals.

Last Week's Budgetary Offerings: \$4,144.00

Sunday School: \$10.00

Missions: \$20.00

Deck the Halls-Deck the Sanctuary, Deck the Narthex, Deck the Fellowship Hall...

December 8th following Bible Class

Please plan to join this festive event!!!

Soup Supper

December 11th 5:30 PM

Before the Advent Service

Christmas Cookie Crunch

Cookies. Coffee. Cocoa. Fellowship.

December 22nd Following the Children's Service

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the office door for anyone wishing to:

Donate Cookies

Contact Paula Walker with questions: 989-239-8445