

NEW BEGINNINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Second Sunday in Advent – December 8th, 2024 (11:11 am)

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

Psalm 66:1-12
Malachi 3:1-7b
Philippians 1:2-11
Luke 3:1-14

The Preaching of Repentance Prepares Us for the Coming of the Lord

The preaching and Baptism “of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Luke 3:3) prepare us for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. The historic work of John the Baptist was completed with the first advent of our Lord Jesus in the flesh, but the ministry of the forerunner continues in the preaching of Law and Gospel and in Holy Baptism. Through His messengers, the Lord calls people of all nations to “see the salvation of God” (Luke 3:6). Our haughtiness is removed and our mountains of pride are brought low, but the Lord humbles us in order to exalt us in His mercy. As the Lord has begun this good work of repentance in us, so also does He perfect it by His Word and Holy Spirit, and He “will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ” (Phil. 1:6). He purifies us to be His priestly people, precious in His sight and abounding in faith and love, so that we offer our very lives in righteousness to the Lord (Mal. 3:3-4).

WELCOME – (Cam)

GATHERING SONG – LION OF JUDAH

You're the Lion of Judah
The Lamb who was slain
You ascended to heaven
And ever more will reign
At the end of the age
When the earth You reclaim
You will gather the nations before You
And the eyes of all men
Will be fixed on the Lamb
Who was crucified
With wisdom and mercy and justice
You'll reign at Your Father's side

***And the angels will cry hail the Lamb
Who was slain for the world rule in pow'r
And the earth will reply You shall reign
As the King of all kings***

And the Lord of all lords

There's a shield in our hand
And a sword at our side
There's a fire in our spirits
That cannot be denied
'Cause the Father has told us
For these You have died
For the nations who gather before You
And the ears of all men
Need to hear of the Lamb
Who was crucified
Who descended to hell
Yet was raised up to reign
At His Father's side

CCLI Song # 1079280

Robin Mark

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AS WE BEGIN and CALLING ON GOD'S NAME (Pastor)

P – In the name of the FATHER, the SON, and the HOLY SPIRIT. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS - (Pastor)

P – To be happy is to know that our transgressions are forgiven.

C – **To be happy is to know that God does not count our sins against us.**

P – When we refuse to confess our sins, God's life within us wastes away.

C – **If we do not acknowledge our wrongs, our strength soon dries up.**

P – We acknowledge our sin before You, O God.

C – **We confess that we have broken Your law. We rejoice that You, gracious Father, forgive the guilt of our sin. You love us in the midst of our distress. In Jesus Christ, You deliver us from the punishment that we deserve. You set us free to live and serve You.**

(Brief silence)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Pastor)

P – The Lord has mercy on you. He is gracious, Slow to anger, He pours out on you His endless love. He does not deal with you according to your sins. For Jesus' sake, He pardons You. As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove Your transgressions from you. Your sins are forgiven. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

KID'S MESSAGE

KID'S MESSAGE

Advent is a time to wait
Not quiet time to celebrate
Count the candles one by one
Until Advent time is done.
Day by day we work and play
To prepare for Christmas Day.

Alexandra Montano

WE WILL LIGHT UP THE SECOND CANDLE OF ADVENT

THE SECOND CANDLE – LOVE: The second candle, lit on the second Sunday of Christmas, announces the great Christmas joy that Jesus is King of kings. At the first coming, Jesus came humbly. He humbled himself deeply. He was born in a stable in Bethlehem, he was despised and killed by men. Soon Jesus will return. No more in humiliation, but in great glory and majesty, with all their holy angels, to judge alive and dead.

WORSHIP SONG – JESUS MESSIAH

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Jesus Messiah Name above all names

Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel

The Rescue for sinners

The Ransom from heaven

Jesus Messiah Lord of all

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

All our hope is in You

All our hope is in You

All the glory to You God

The Light of the world

Jesus Messiah

Lord of all

The Lord of all

The Lord of all

CCLI Song # 5183443

Chris Tomlin | Daniel Carson | Ed Cash | Jesse Reeves

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READING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT FROM MALACHI 3:1-7b - (Vince)

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. ²But 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. ³He 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. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵"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.

⁶"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From 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.

READING OF THE EPISTLE OF PHILIPPIANS 1:2-11 (Vince)

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And 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. ⁷It 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. ⁸For God is my

witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

READING OF THE GOSPEL FROM LUKE 3:1-14 - (Vince)

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, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ 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.

⁵ 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,

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

⁷ 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? ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” ¹¹ And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.” ¹² Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³ And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴ 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.”

WORSHIP SONG – HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

So here I am to worship

Here I am to bow down

Here I am to say that You're my God

And You're altogether lovely

Altogether worthy

Altogether wonderful to me

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor
*And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross*

CCLI Song # 3266032

Tim Hughes

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MESSAGE – PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD (Luke 3:4-6)

SONG – PREPARE YOUR HEART

The sun's already waking,
a new day's dawn at hand.
Our joyful hope is raising
No darkness withstands
According to the promise,

Of God, the prophecy
in humbleness He is coming
To save us from sin

***The Christ from God the Father
is coming to our hearts.***

***The baby King, our Saviour,
true love He imparts.***

:: Prepare your heart for Christmas:

***His Love and Peace He gives;
forgiveness and salvation!***

Our hope in Him lives. ::

Paulo Brum, 1996

English Version: Lucas Albrecht 2018

ADVENT CREED

I believe in God THE FATHER, the Uncreated, who began a good work in the very beginning, making all things out of nothing: space and time and material substance; all things that creep and swim and fly, the beasts of the forest, the fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea; and at last human beings in His own image, to have fellowship with Him. Then when, in the disobedience of human hearts, that image had been corrupted, He began a gracious design for the restoration of that holy image. He waited patiently, but when the time had fully come, God sent His Son.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only SON, our Redeemer. In the fullness of time, and with all the fullness of the Deity in His bodily form, Jesus was born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law. With a message of baptism and repentance for the forgiveness of sins, John prepared the way for the coming Saviour, the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. Following a ministry of undoing the effects of sin and evil in people's lives, Jesus, in true servanthood, emptied Himself, giving Himself for us in the once-for-all sacrifice of being obedient to the Father all the way to death on the cross. Sin, death and hell were swallowed up three days later by Jesus' triumphant resurrection. Now I wait patiently for His return at the end of the ages to share His victory with me and all who put their trust in Him.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, one with the Father and the Son. He lives in the temple of my body, bought with the precious blood of Jesus. Within the embrace and fellowship of the church, He leads me in a life of repentance and forgiveness. In the end, He will complete the good work that God began in the very beginning, keeping me

pure and blameless until the coming day of Christ, and finally raising my spirit and my body to new and eternal life completely and only by grace. Amen.

WORSHIP SONG – YOU ARE NEAR

Yahweh, I know you are near standing always at my side
You guard me from the foe, and you lead me in ways everlasting
Lord you have searched my heart
and you know when I sit and when I stand
Your hand is upon me protecting me from death
Keeping me from harm
 Where can I run from your love
 If I climb to the heavens You are there
 If I fly to the sunrise or sail beyond the sea
 Still I'd find you there
You know my heart and It's ways
You Who formed me before I was born
In the secret of darkness before I saw the sun
In my mother's womb
 Marvelous to theme are Your works
 How profound are your thoughts, my Lord
 Even if I could count them, they number as the stars
 You would still be there

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (Prayer)

LORD'S PRAYER (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.**

RECEIVE GOD'S BLESSING (Pastor)

P – The grace of our Lord *JESUS CHRIST* and the love of *GOD* and the communion of the *HOLY SPIRIT* be with you all. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING SONG - THANKS AND PRAISE

We are here together
To lift our hearts as one
We're in our Father's presence
His Spirit is with us

***It is good to lift the name of the Lord our God
It is right to give Him thanks and praise
For His heart is overflowing with love for us
And His mercy we can never contain***

And each and every morning
We'll tell of His great love
Of all His faithful mercies
And all that He has done
For who can match His kindness
And who can count His works
Oh let our praise continue
'Til evening draws in close

*Glory honour wisdom power and strength
To our Saviour Jesus worthy of all praise
Glory honour wisdom power and strength
To our Saviour Jesus worthy of all praise*

It is right to give Him thanks and praise
It is right to give Him thanks and praise