

PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

G ♪ Amen, amen, a – men.

HYMN: TLH #97

“Let Us All With Gladsome Voice”

1. Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.
2. To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heaven's fair homes We may reign in gladness.
3. We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.
4. O Lord Christ, our Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us!

✠ Announcements ✠

The Christmas Eve Service is being planned to be held once again this year. Due to an expected crowd of around 100, we are not intending to have this service indoors, but rather we aim to use the parking lot as a make-shift sanctuary. As part of the decoration, we are hoping to make use of quart-sized mason jars. If you have any quart-sized mason jars that you would be willing to lend to the church, please bring them over the next few weeks. We will tape the bottom of the jars with your name to ensure that you get them back. Thank you!

Looking Ahead...

- ✠ Dec. 13: Orlando Service 8 am
- ✠ Dec. 16: Midweek Advent 6:30 pm
- ✠ Dec. 20: Masks-on Service 9 am
- ✠ Dec. 20: Trustees & Council
- ✠ Jan. 3: Annual Voters' Meeting

The Students of Immanuel will be Christmas Caroling on December 22 at 2:00 pm on the church YouTube page.

CLC Call News Pastor has returned the call to Living Savior Lutheran Church of Eden Prairie, MN. Thank you for your prayers and for sharing your thoughts with me. I am very blessed to have been called to serve the congregation here, and I pray the Lord will continue to bless all of our efforts to serve His Kingdom!

Last Week (12/6) WH – 44

Total Offering = \$2,731

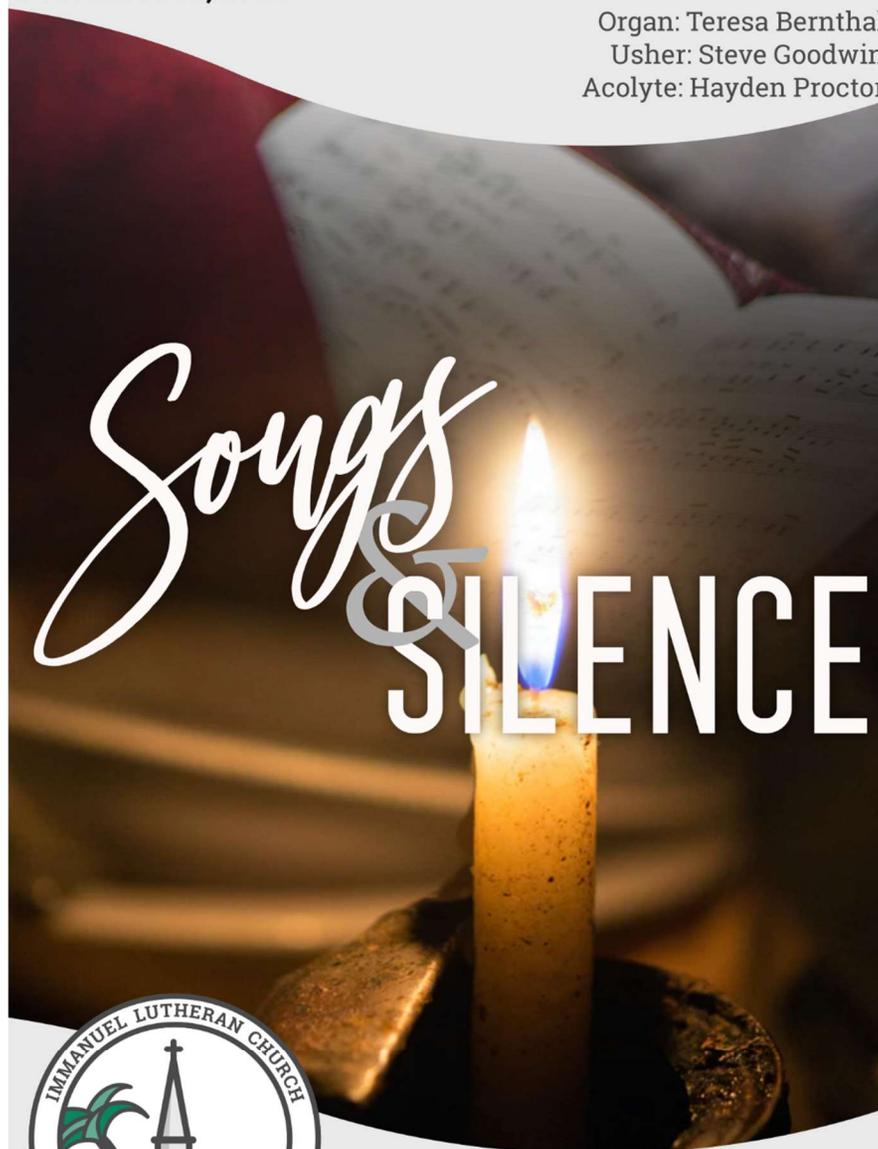
Gen. = \$1661 | Missions = \$20 | Build. = \$50 | Prop. = \$350 | KINSHIP = \$650

Usher: Steve | **Cleaner (12/19):** Annette | **Acolyte (12/20):** Landon

December 13, 2020

Advent 3

Organ: Teresa Bernthal
Usher: Steve Goodwin
Acolyte: Hayden Proctor



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Megan Goodwin, Teacher (651) 795-9799

Songs and Silence

Advent is a time of preparation. A common preparation for Christmas comes in the form of Christmas songs. Christmas tunes fill the airwaves this time of year, and we all have a few favorite go-to's. However, silence is also an important tool during our Advent preparations. This is a time of year to silence our thoughts and mediate on God's Word. This Advent, we'll be making use of both Songs and Silence. On the four Sundays of Advent we will be considering the four songs of Christmas. During our Wednesday Evening services we will be considering three lessons of silence.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

OPENING PRAYER

P Pastor

C Congregation

HYMN: TLH #63

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Come, then, and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings from the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed be every Christian breast
And furnished for so great a Guest.
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.
3. For Thou art our Salvation, Lord,
Our Refuge, and our great Reward.
Without Thy grace our souls must fade
And wither like a flower decayed.
4. Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in every place.
5. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore
And Holy Ghost forevermore.



P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **A - - - men.**

he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us; ⁷² to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, ⁷⁸ because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

The Song of Zechariah:

It's all about Christ.

OFFERTORY

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- C** **♫ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

HYMN: TLH #61

"Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

1. Comfort, comfort, ye My people, Speak ye peace, thus saith our God; Comfort those who sit in darkness, Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load. Speak ye to Jerusalem Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her sins I cover And her warfare now is over.
2. Yea, her sins our God will pardon, Blotting out each dark misdeed; All that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed. She hath suffered many a day, Now her griefs have passed away; God will change her pining sadness Into ever-springing gladness.
3. Hark, the Herald's voice is crying In the desert far and near, Bidding all men to repentance Since the Kingdom now is here. Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way; Let the valleys rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
4. Make ye straight what long was crooked, Make the rougher places plain; Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits His holy reign. For the glory of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed abroad, And all flesh shall see the token That His Word is never broken.

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 3:1-6 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³ 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.'" ⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

CONFESSIO OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #15

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

**1. From all that dwell below the skies
 Let the Creator's praise arise; Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Let the Redeemer's name be sung
 Through every land, by every tongue.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
**2. Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
 Eternal truth attends Thy Word: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
 Till suns shall rise and set no more.
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SERMON – Luke 1:67-79 And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, ⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people ⁶⁹ and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰ as

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
- C** ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- C** ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.
- C** ♪ **A - - - men.**

INTROIT

Zech. 9:9b; Ps. 89:6ff

- P** Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.
- C** **Who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD?**
- P** Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; steadfast love and faithfulness go before You.
- C** **Blessèd are the people who know the festal shout, who walk, O LORD, in the light of Your face.**
- P** Who exult in Your name all the day and in Your righteousness are exalted.
- C** **For our shield belongs to the LORD, our King to the Holy One of Israel.**
- P** Behold, your King is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory be to the Father"

☐ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 3:4b, 6

☐ Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

THE KYRIE

Latin for "O Lord"

☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

TLH #237:1

☐ All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

☐ Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our

sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ *A - - - men.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Malachi 4:1-6 "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³ And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. ⁴ "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵ "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

NEW TESTAMENT READING – Acts 19:1-10 And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. ² And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³ And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴ And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all. ⁸ And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. ⁹ But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.