



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



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Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Wednesday, December 16, 2020 – 7:30 PM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
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Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music
Betsy Molinary, Director of Early Learning Center
Tracie Hudson, Assistant Director of Early Learning Center*

**Advent Midweek 3
Jesus: The Son of Scandal
(Series B)**

AS WE GATHER

As we unpack Matthew's genealogical history of Jesus, we find several scandals, for in His family tree are people involved in incest, prostitution, adultery, and murder. But our gracious Lord brought good from the bad, even going to the cross to include us! We are all prodigal children, now joined to the Body of Christ and heirs of heaven only by the grace of God through our Baptism. And so, we pray to the "Son of scandal," come quickly, Lord Jesus.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham, . . . the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. *Matthew 1:1, 16*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

LIGHTING OF CANDLES (*INCLUDING THE ADVENT WREATH*)

Stand

OPENING SENTENCES

2 Samuel 12:9, 24; Titus 3:3-5a; Mark 1:11

- P** Although Nathan condemned David, “You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife,”
- C** **she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon.**
- P** Paul writes that although “we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient,
- C** **when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us.”**
- P** When John baptized Jesus, “A voice came from heaven, ‘You are My beloved Son;
- C** **with You I am well pleased.’ ”**

✠PSALMODY✠

PSALM

Psalm 71:1-12; antiphon: v. 1

- P** This psalm, perhaps by David, reflects on a life marked by scandal and conflict.

In You, O LORD, do I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame!

- P** In Your righteousness deliver me and rescue me:
- C** **incline Your ear to me, and save me!**

- P** Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come;
- C** **You have given the command to save me,
for You are my rock and my fortress.**

- P** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
- C** **from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.**

P For You, O Lord, are my hope,
C my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

P Upon You I have leaned from before my birth;
C You are He who took me from my mother's womb.

P My praise is continually of You.
C I have been as a portent to many,
But You are my strong refuge.

P My mouth is filled with Your praise,
C and with Your glory all the day.

P Do not cast me off in the time of old age;
C forsake me not when my strength is spent.

P For my enemies speak concerning me;
C those who watch for my life consult together

P and say, "God has forsaken him;
C pursue and seize him,
For there is none to deliver him."

P O God, be not far from me;
C O my God, make haste to help me!

**In You, O Lord, do I take refuge;
Let me never be put to shame!**

THE GREAT O ANTIPHON

P This Great O Antiphon asks God for relief from spiritual darkness.

O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting;

C Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Advent 3)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And
2 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And
3 O come, our Broth - er, en - ter in, Though



ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
cheer us by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y
this world teems with scan - d'lous sin. With fall - en sin - ners



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
in Thy tree, We find our - selves for - giv - en, free.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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✠READINGS✠

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 12:7-10, 15-18, 24

L Although David had Bathsheba's first husband killed in battle, their son would be the great King Solomon. A reading from Second Samuel, chapter 12.

⁷Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul. ⁸And I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your arms and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah. And if this were too little, I would add to you as much more. ⁹Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.'

¹⁵Then Nathan went to his house.

And the LORD afflicted the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he became sick. ¹⁶David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. ¹⁷And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. ¹⁸On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, "Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us. How then can we say to him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm."

²⁴Then David comforted his wife, Bathsheba, and went in to her and lay with her, and she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. And the LORD loved him

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Titus 3:3-7

L In our Baptism, God's grace was "poured out on us richly." A reading from Titus, chapter 3.

³For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

THIRD READING

Mark 1:4-11

L For all of us in the Body of Christ, the verdict on Him, “My beloved Son,” is ours by the grace of God. A reading from Mark, chapter 1.

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And 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. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And 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. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

Based on 2 Samuel 12:24; Titus 3:5; Mark 1:8

- P** She bore a son, Solomon.
C He saved us according to His own mercy.
- P** Not because of works done by us.
C He saved us according to His own mercy.
- P** He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.
C He saved us according to His own mercy.

Sit

349 HARK THE GLAD SOUND



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

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SERMON

VOTUM

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

OFFERING

Stand

936 SING PRAISE TO THE GOD OF ISRAEL



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,
oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,
lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and
And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.
foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

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✠PRAYER✠

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

COLLECTS

- P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, guide and protect clergy and lay leaders of Your Church. Enable them to lift people's hearts and minds to look beyond global pandemics, natural disasters, and political upheavals to see the eternal Kingdom, which You have graciously opened to all people who trust in You for life and health and peace. Bless those who till the soil, manage farms, transport supplies, and distribute food and clothing where they are needed. Son of David,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty Lord, give wisdom and courage to those who lead governments, command armed forces, and maintain order in society. Give them hearts to seek peace so that warfare with neighbor states and civil strife within them give way to prosperity, health, and cooperation. Increase our faith to depend on Your eternal promises of the better country that awaits us by grace. Son of Abraham,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Jesus, Light of the world, open the hearts of all who are burdened by their scandals and other past sins. Surround them with faithful people to tell them about Your coming in human history to give Yourself for them. Protect and guide all law enforcement personnel, first responders, health care workers, and counselors. Help them balance justice, mercy, and compassionate care so that many may have their lives repaired and hope restored. Son of scandal,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, cared for by Your adopted human father, Joseph, remember people like him, those who have been forgotten, whether dispossessed, incarcerated, or isolated for any reason. Remember not their sins and iniquities but give them a sense of Your abiding presence. Nurture in us all a love for Your will so that we obediently do whatever You ask. Son of Joseph,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Servant Savior, born in a stable to a lowly Virgin, remind us again that You turn the world's ways upside down. Give strength to the weak, lift up the downtrodden, provide hope for the despairing, announce peace to the distraught, and proclaim eternal forgiveness to all burdened by their sin. Son of Mary,

C **hear our prayer.**

COLLECT FOR TODAY

P Lord Jesus, the people included in Your family tree dealt with scandalous sin within and around them, and yet from them You graciously entered human history.

C **Help us to see Your grace at work in us, we who have been grafted into Your family tree by Baptism. Strengthen us to truly be Your forgiven and adopted brothers and sisters.**

P Son of scandal,

C **hear our prayer.**

COLLECT FROM SUNDAY

P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers

C **and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation;**

P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

P We pray together,

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

C Amen.

376 ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
 3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
 day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
 help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 feels for all our sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
 leads His chil - dren on To the place where He is gone.
 stars His chil - dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

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THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Matthew 1:1–16

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of **David**, the son of **Abraham**.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by **Tamar**, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by **Rahab**, and Boaz the father of Obed by **Ruth**, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the **wife of Uriah**, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of **Joseph** the husband of **Mary**, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

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