



**St. Luke's
Lutheran Church**



330 Sunset Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66502
785-539-2604
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

December 6, 2020 – 11:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
Charity Smith, Director of Christian Education
Rev. King Crawford, Campus Ministry
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music
Betsy Molinary, Director of Early Learning Center
Tracie Hudson, Assistant Director*

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

(Series B)

AS WE GATHER

This year, the holy evangelist St. Mark greets us to lead us through a new Church Year. He does not, however, greet us as we might expect. For one thing, he seems to have forgotten all about Christmas! At least Matthew and Luke tell of Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger and of angels and shepherds. But Mark? While Christmas is the earthly “beginning” of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, this preacher means that his entire Gospel, the whole biblical story, is but “the beginning of the Gospel.” It is as if he means to say that the Baptist’s call to repentance comes to us *In Medias Res*, that is, in the middle of everything else, in the middle of the biblical story and in the middle of our lives and activities, right now. He is saying, “Stop what you’re doing. Repent again and welcome the Greater One, Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” The Christian faith and life is one of continual repentance and faith. Watch and listen as our Lord comes to us again, now, by His Spirit in His Word and Sacraments.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 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. *Isaiah 40:3–4*”

PRELUDE

(Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.)

✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠

LIGHTING OF CANDLES (INCLUDING ADVENT WREATH)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

PRESERVICE SONG - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Matthew 2: 2

- 1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels
- 2, 4 O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him
6 O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Glory to God, glory in the highest
- 5 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing
(Latin Hymn, Music by John Francis Wade arr. ©1997 Maranatha Music! CCLI #288089)

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Prepare the way of the Lord. Recalling our Baptism into Christ, we confess our sins to God in the full assurance of the gift of forgiveness by the mighty sacrifice of His Son.
- C** **O God, from the wilderness of lives disfigured and crushed by the devil, our own sin, and the sins of others, we cry out to You for the forgiveness of our sins, those that trouble us as well as those of which we are not aware. Restore our life and faith by Your own command for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

P Stir up our hearts by Your mighty Word and Spirit, O Lord, that we may be prepared to receive Your gifts of life and salvation through the forgiveness of our sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His 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 us men and 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 at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both
the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
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 Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

OPENING SONG – “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” Isaiah 49:3

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee
God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest, vale and mountain
Flowery meadow, flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee

3 Thou art giving and forgiving
Ever blessing, ever blest
Wellspring of the joy of living
Ocean depth of happy rest
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother
All who live in love are Thine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine

(Henry Van Dyke & Ludwig Van Beethoven, arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

(Comfort for God's people.)

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak 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.

³A voice cries:

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

⁴Every 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.

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

⁶A 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.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you 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!”

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

¹¹He 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26

L Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

C **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

L Behold, your king is coming to you;

C **righteous and having salvation.**

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

C **From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

EPISTLE

2 Peter 3:8-14

(The day of the Lord will come.)

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

Luke 3:4b, 6

P Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight;

C all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

(John the Baptist prepares the way.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way,

³the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

SERMON

VOTUM

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

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. **Offering plates** are available in the narthex as you exit.
2. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503
3. Give through our **website**:
<https://stlukesmanhattan.org/about-us/financial-support/>
4. **Electronic Funds Transfer**
Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Matthew 21:43 – “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.” The Pharisees were not bearing fruit. They were faithful to the letter of the Law in keeping the Sabbath, tithing, and all the rest, but they neglected the heart of God's will. The grace of God belongs at the center. Our giving and all our other good works flow forth from receiving God's grace and living in that grace on a daily basis.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, we give thanks this day for calling us and the whole world to repentance and faith by Your holy prophets, by Your servant John the Baptist, and by Your own Son, whose Spirit calls, gathers, and enlightens everyone through His mighty Word and Sacraments. Grant that we and all who hear His voice remain faithful in the fellowship of Your Holy Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Continue to give Your blessing, power, and grace to Your Church, especially all pastors and servants You have called and given to guard, feed, and teach Your flock. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give stability to our country, supplying all who make, administer, and judge our laws with wisdom and goodwill toward all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Bless the schools of the Church and all centers of learning and research that those who teach would serve You honorably and that our common life be conformed to the ways of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P By Your Word and Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [*especially . . .*]. Support all who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near, [*especially . . .*]. Give Your tender care to all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Remembering those who have loved and served You who now rest from their labors, we give You thanks. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Sit

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him will receive the body and blood of Christ first. They will then distribute the elements to those in the pews who are unable to come forward, and then finally to those who come forward.

During the COVID-19 regulations, continuous communion will be practiced. Please maintain Social Distancing while waiting in line to receive communion.

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“What Child is This” Luke 2:11

- 1 What Child is this, who, laid to rest
 On Mary’s lap is sleeping
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
 While shepherds watch are keeping

- 2 This, this is Christ the King
 Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
 Haste, haste to bring Him laud
 The Babe, the Son of Mary

- 3 So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh
 Come, peasant, king, to own Him
 The King of kings, salvation brings
 Let loving hearts enthrone Him

- 4 Nail, spear shall pierce Him through
 The cross be born for me and you
 Hail, hail the Son of God
 The Babe the Son of Mary

- 5 Raise, raise the song on high
 The Virgin sings a lullaby
 Joy, joy for Christ is born
 The Babe the Son of Mary

(William C. Dix, traditional melody, arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Isaiah 60:1

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

- 2 O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death’s dark shadows put to flight
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

- 3 O come, Desire of nations bind in one the hearts of all mankind
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, and be Thyself our King of Peace
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

(Words by John M. Neale, Music by Thomas Helmore. Arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music. CCLI #288089)

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Stand

THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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 peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING SONG - "Jesus, Light of the World"

- 1 The most beautiful night of the year
All the stars light up the sky
And the city is sparkling with silver and gold
From a million points of light
A reflection of something that's deeper within
Just a flicker of something bold
- 2, 4 Jesus, light of the world
5 Shine through the darkness, bright as the day
Jesus, light of the world
Shine in our hearts
Show us the way today
- 3 Who is this child in the manger?
Kings bow down and angels sing
The Lord of the universe is come here to save us
A precious offering
All the heavens above and the earth below
Are filled with the light of Your love
(Third Day, Used by permission CCLI #288089)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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