

WATER OF LIFE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

children's program



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
& CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER 18, 2022 | 10 AM

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PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL ✠ SEEK THE THIRSTY ✠ TEACH THE WORD

** As We Gather **

The season of Advent reminds us that we as individuals are part of the big picture of salvation planned by our God as we reflect on the coming of Christ to earth for us. We rejoice today as our children present the Christmas story to us in word and song!

** Preparation **

OPENING HYMN

Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

LSB 350



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Heb. 10:22; Ps 124:8; Ps 32:5

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.

P 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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

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 unto 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.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✧ *The Christmas Story* ✧

Children's Christmas Program

Adapted from Matthew 2-3 & Luke 1-2 (NIV)

OPENING MUSIC: "Cradle Song"

(In the setting of Johannes Brahms' *Waltz, op. 39, no. 15* and *Lullaby*)

INTRODUCTION

SONG: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

SCENE 1: Mary and the Angel

SONG: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

SCENE 2: Joseph and the Angel

SONG: "What Child Is This?"

SCENE 3: The Trip to Bethlehem and the Birth of Jesus

SONG: "In a Little Stable"

SCENE 4: The Shepherds and the Angels

SONGS: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" / "Away in a Manger"

SCENE 5: The Wise Men and the Star

SONG: "Joy to the World"



APOSTLES' CREED

**ALL I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God
 the Father Almighty.
 From thence 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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *(sung)*

LSB, p. 192-93

*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.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✱ Service of the Sacrament ✱

PREFACE

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

2 Timothy 4:22

P Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son, the long hoped-for Messiah, to bring us salvation. Pour out upon us the gifts of Your Spirit, that we may receive Your blessings joyfully and resolutely serve You in all we do. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

SANCTUS *(sung)*

LSB, p. 195

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who in giving Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to accomplish our salvation has fulfilled the hope of the prophets and of Your people for countless generations. We thank You for calling us to be Your people in this time and place and for inviting us to Your holy Table. Joined together in the name of our Lord and in the communion of saints, we pray You to send Your Holy Spirit upon us to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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

C Our Father who art in heaven...

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION ~ Welcome to the Lord's table. (An usher will direct you.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Eat This Bread

LSB 638

Refrain



Eat this bread, drink this cup, Come to Him and nev-er be hun - gry.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, Trust in Him and you will not thirst.

Cantor or Choir



1 This is His bod - y giv - en for you; this is His blood that was shed for you.



2 As of-ten as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show His death un-til He comes a-gain.



3 Eat His flesh and drink His blood, and Christ will raise you up on the Last Day.



4 An - y - one who eats this bread will live for - ev - er.



5 If we be-lieve and eat this bread, we will have e - ter - nal life.

Refrain

NUNC DIMITTIS *(sung)*

LSB, p. 199-200

*Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Continue with Your gracious presence among us and bless our coming in and our going out this day and each day of our earthly lives. Grant us Your abiding peace as we await Your eternal kingdom. In the name of Jesus, our Advent hope, we pray.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26


P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where Christ the
4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make it a
5 Re - deem - er, come and o - pen wide My heart to

King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 rul - er is con-fessed! O peace - ful hearts and hap - py
 tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
 Thee; here, Lord, a - bide! O en - ter with Thy grace di -

near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less
 ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your
 vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly

va - tion He doth bring; There-fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
 all our woe He brings; There-fore the earth is glad and sings.
 sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.
 Sov - 'reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.
 Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!
 E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.



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