

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Divine Service III LSB pages 184-202

L = Liturgist * = Stand C = Congregation

PRELUDE 8:00 & 10:30 Bells of Peace

O Come Rejoicing

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN**

Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389

1. **Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav'n again To give us His own Son (2x).**
2. **He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall (2x).**
3. **He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us His realm, His glory, and His name (2x).**
4. **He is the key and He the door To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more. To God our praises rise (2x).**
5. **Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.**

***INVOCATION AND CONFESSION**

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **✠ Amen.**

L: O Wisdom, proceeding from the Most High—

C: **I confess that I have not always lived a wise life. I have not followed Your teachings.**

L: O Lord, head of all the peoples of the world—

C: **My sin has separated me from You. Have mercy on me for Your sake, my Redeemer.**

L: O Branch of Jesse—

C: **I call to You for help, for I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.**

L: O Key of David—

C: **I deserve to have heaven closed to me on account of all that I have done wrong. Open to me the gates of paradise, for Your holy life has exempted me from condemnation.**

L: O Morning Star, Sun of Righteousness—

C: **Forgive me for my dark misdeeds. Shine the light of Your love into the depths of my being.**

L: O Emmanuel—

C: **Come near to me and save me. Amen.**

***THE ABSOLUTION C: ✠ Amen.**

***THE GLORIA PATRI** (Taken from LSB, page 186)

C: **✠ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

***THE KYRIE**

C: **✠ Lord have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

***THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

L: The Lord be with you. C: **♩ And with thy spirit.**

L: Let us pray. C: **♩ Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING for the third Sunday in Advent is from Zephaniah 3:14-20, page 790 (5, 8, & 10:30)

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **♩ Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE is from Philippians 4:4-7, page 982:

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

***THE ALLELUIA VERSE**

C: **♩ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*THE HOLY GOSPEL - The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter, verses 18-28, pages 863-864:

C: **♩ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹⁸John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, ¹⁹he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?" ²⁰When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?'" ²¹At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. ²²So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ²³Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me." ²⁴After John's messengers left, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ²⁵If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear expensive clothes and indulge in luxury are in palaces. ²⁶But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is the one about whom it is written: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." ²⁸I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **♩ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

***THE CREED**

C: **We believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

L: Let the sea resound, and all that is in it; the world and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy. (*Psalm 98:7-8*)

C: **We believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

L: The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." (Luke 1:35)

C: Who was born of the Virgin Mary,

L: "How can this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" (Luke 1:34)

C: 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.

L: Your house and Your kingdom will endure forever. Amen. (1 Samuel 7:16a)

SERMON HYMN

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

LSB 375

1. **Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing, Worthy folk of Christendom.**
2. **Christ, from heav'n to us descending And in love our race befriending;
In our need His help extending, Save us from the wily foe.**
3. **Jacob's star in all its splendor Beams with comfort sweet and tender,
Forcing Satan to surrender, Breaking all the pow'rs of hell.**
4. **From the bondage that oppressed us, From sin's fetters that possessed us,
From the grief that sore distressed us, We, the captives, now are free.**

THE SERMON

"Prepare The Way"

(Luke 7:27)

THE OFFERING - *During the offering all worshipers are asked to fill out the blue or ivory cards found in the pew rack. Please pass cards down to center aisle. They will be collected immediately after the offering.*

VOLUNTARY 8:00 & 10:30 Bells of Peace

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

***THE OFFERTORY** LSB page 192

✠ 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.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

***LORD'S PRAYER** (Found on the inside back cover of the hymnal.)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ✠ Amen.

***THE AGNUS DEI** LSB page 198

✠ 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 HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368

1. **Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'r the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

2. **Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

3. **Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

OTHER DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 353, 383, 357

NUNC DIMITTIS - Song of Simeon Luke 2:29-32

LSB page 199

♪ 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.

L: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: **♪ And His mercy endureth forever.**

L: Let us pray. C: **♪ Amen.**

L: The Lord be with you. C: **♪ And with Thy Spirit.**

L: Bless we the Lord. C: **♪ Thanks be to God.**

***THE BENEDICTION**

C: **♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.**

***THE CLOSING HYMN**

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

LSB 352

1. **Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly kept His word
And at last to us did send Christ, the sinner's help and friend.**

2. **What the fathers most desired, What the prophets' heart inspired,
What they longed for many a year, Stands fulfilled in glory here.**

***SILENT PRAYER / POSTLUDE + + + + +**

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Dennis A. Kastens

Liturgist: 5, 8, & 10:30: Pastor Jon C. Furgeson; 9:20: Sem. B. Ramthun

Organist: 8:00 & 10:30: Burnell Hackman 5:00 & 9:20: Alice Kastens

Choir Dir: Burnell Hackman, DMM

KFUO AM 850 Broadcaster/Engineer: Rick Goodman/Terry Hutton

NEWS AND NOTES:

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 16, 2018

TODAY'S EDUCATION HOUR: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class (Lower Commons): American Church History

Women's Bible Class (Office Conf. Rm.): led by Janice McCreary

Youth Bible Class: led by Christina Stackle, DCE

8th Gr: Rick Goodman & Mike Renner

7th Gr: Greg Wirtel & Louise Oster

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE (Preschool-6) **today**, 4:00p.m. Welcome.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES available in Commons. Please continue to use your 2018 envelopes through Dec. 31, 2018. Your 2019 envelope (#) set will not be in effect until after January 1, 2019.

"CHRISTMAS AT PEACE" concert by Peace's Music Ministry is next Sunday, December 23, beginning at 3:00p.m. Invite others!

The Lutheran Witness and Supplement for 2019 calendar year is \$18.00. There is an envelope in your contribution envelope box if you wish to use it. Please make checks payable to *Peace Lutheran Church*.

ADULT INQUIRY series begins Jan. 13 with sessions on Sundays, 6-8 p.m. for those desiring to learn about our faith or church membership. Sign-up is posted on the Commons' bulletin board.

PEACE LADIES GUILD All ladies of the congregation are invited to the Ladies Guild pot luck lunch on December 20 at 12 noon. Members, please bring a dish to share. We will be dispersing the funds from our treasury to worthy recipients.

ALASKA MISSION TEAM Stop by the gym to pick up sausages and cheeses for holiday parties or for gifts. Gift baskets also available.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 16, 2018:

Today:	4:00	Sunday School Christmas Service
Mon:	3:30	GP Practice
	7:00	Troop 584 Committee Meeting
Tue:	9:00	Quilters
	9:00	Plastic Mat Making
	3:30	GP Practice
	6:00	Property Management
Wed:	9:00	TPL Assembly
	11:00	South County Senior Citizens
	4:00	5/6/7/8 Gr. Confirmation
	5:00	Advent Dinner
	6:15	Advent Service
	7:00	Bells of Peace Rehearsal
Thu:	12:00	Ladies Guild
	6:30	Security Meeting
	6:30	College Girls Bible Study
	7:00	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Fri:	7:15	Christmas at Peace Orchestra Rehearsal
Sat:	5:00	Worship Service
Sun:	3:00	Christmas at Peace Concert