

Prince of Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church



Are You Ready For Christmas?

Advent 3 – Prepare
By Proclaiming

December 13, 2020

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WELCOME!

Welcome to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. We pray that the time spent here in God's house helps you to appreciate how dearly God loves you! He invested the life blood of his one and only Son into your salvation and offers the blessings of that sacrifice to us through Word and Sacrament! May God bless our worship today!

THEME FOR TODAY

Imagine you have planned a lavish Christmas party. You have thought of everything. You only forgot one thing – to invite guests. What a colossal waste! Likewise, God has prepared a lavish party. It will be thrown in heaven. There will be endless joys and wonders. And because God is a perfect planner, he has remembered to invite his guests. Before Jesus came the first time, God raised up a man we call John the Baptist. John told the people how to prepare to meet Christ. And now, in preparation of Jesus' second coming, God calls us – believers – to proclaim his Word far and wide, so that many may join us in the eternal celebration Christ is bringing.

INFORMATION

- Our nursery area is located near the entrance area of the church. It is equipped with a television monitor so that you can view and follow the service if you desire to stay with your child in the nursery.
- Restrooms are located through the double doors down the hallway on the right. A changing table for infants and toddlers is located in both restrooms. Additional restrooms are available in the education wing.
- The service is recorded and may be found on our YouTube channel or website.

Musician: Mr. Isaac Roeseler

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

There will be one more Midweek Advent service on the evening of December 16th at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there!

ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING - TODAY

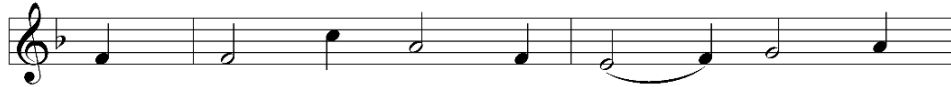
Following the 10:30 service today, we will adopt the 2021 budget, elect the 2021 church council, present the 2020 membership changes, and report on the projects completed in 2020.

ORDER OF SERVICE

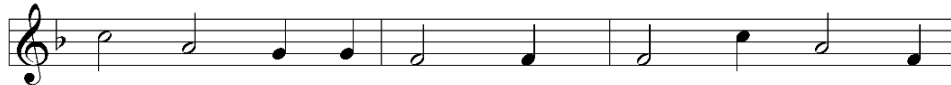
ADVENT

14

Arise, O Christian People



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him; Pre -
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn



pare your - selves to - day. Pre - pare to greet the
pare for him the best. Cast out what would of -
rais - es up on high; Be - neath his feet in
not from me a - side, And help me to re -



Sav - ior, Who takes your sins a - way. To
fend him, This great, this heav'n - ly guest. Make
ter - ror The haugh - ty soul shall lie. The
ceive you This bless - ed Ad - vent - tide. From



us by grace a - lone The truth and
straight, make plain the way: The low - ly
heart sin - cere and right, That heeds God's
stall and man - ger low Come now to



light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
dwell with - in me; I'll sing your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
glad - ly And forth your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–62, alt.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, st. 1-3, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 4, alt.

Tune: AUS MEINES HERZENS GRUNDE (76 76 67 76) *New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein*, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

STAND

[M]: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

[C]: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

[M]: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

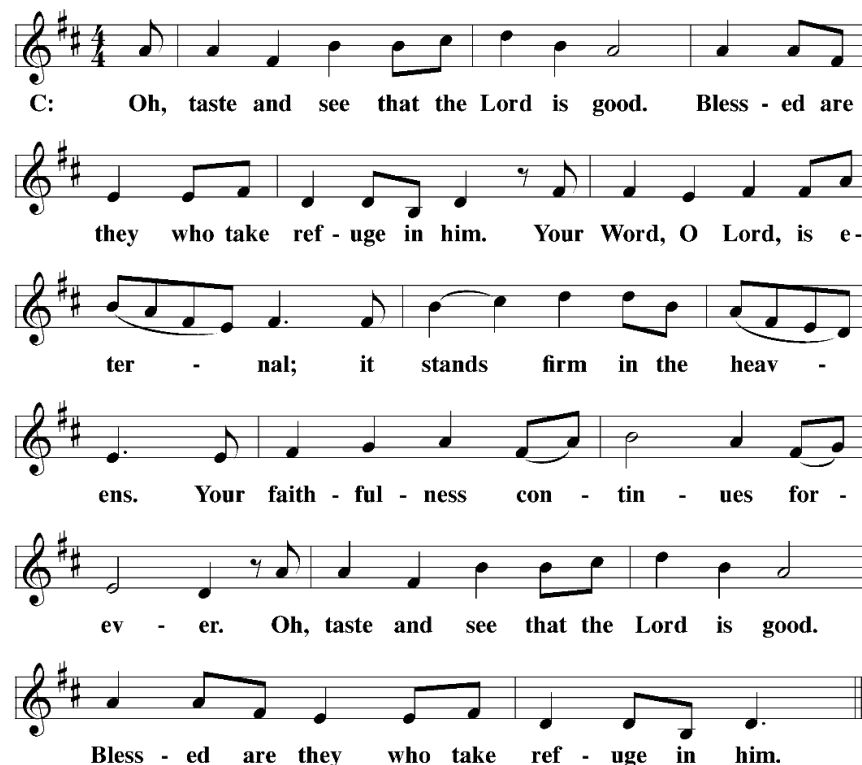
[C]: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

[M]: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

[C]: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

[M]: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[M]: Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

[C]: Amen.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-3, 10, 11

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
² to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes,
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the LORD
for the display of his splendor.

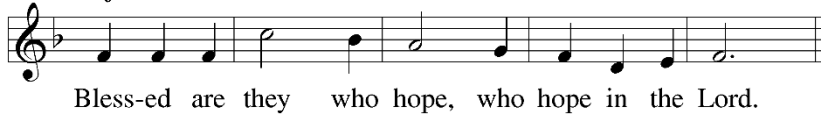
¹⁰ I delight greatly in the LORD;
my soul rejoices in my God.
For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 71

Refrain



Psalm tone



let me never be put to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness;
turn your ear to me and save me.

Be my rock of refuge to which I can always go;
For you are my rock and my fortress.

Refrain

Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,*
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

Even when I am old and gray,*
do not forsake me, O God,

till I declare your power to the next generation,*
your might to all who are to come.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies with contempt ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good, ²² reject every kind of evil.

²³ May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. (Matthew 11:10)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

STAND

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

¹⁹ Now this was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, “I am not the Messiah.”

²¹ They asked him, “Then who are you? Are you Elijah?”

He said, “I am not.”

“Are you the Prophet?”

He answered, “No.”

²² Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”

²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, “I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’ ”

²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”

²⁶ “I baptize with water,” John replied, “but among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”

²⁸ This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY


MISSIONS

570


O Christians, Haste




1 O Chris - tians, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Be - hold how man - y thou - sands still are ly - ing
3 Pro - claim to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
4 Send her - als forth to bear the mes - sage glo - rious;



To tell to all the world that God is light,
Bound in the drear - y pris - on - house of sin
That God, in whom they live and move, is love;
Give of your wealth to speed them on their way;




That he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
With none to tell them of the Sav - ior's dy - ing
Tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
Pour out your soul for them in prayer vic - to - rious;



One soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
Or of the life he died for them to win.
And died on earth that they might live a - bove.
O Chris - tians, haste to bring the bright - er day!

Refrain



Pub - lish glad ti - dings, Ti - dings of peace,
Ti - dings of Je - sus, Re - demp - tion and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923, abr., alt.
Tune: REDEMPTION (11 10 11 10 with Refrain) Bruce R. Backer, b. 1929. © 1993 Bruce R. Backer. All rights reserved.
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SERMON

Isaiah 61:1-3, 10, 11

- This is about Christ Jesus
- I. Proclaim *His* good news
 - II. Rejoice in *His* gifts

STAND

THE APOSTLE'S 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.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[M]: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

[C]: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

[M]: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

[C]: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

[M]: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

[C]: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

[M]: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

[C]: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

[M]: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

[M]: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

[C]: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

[M]: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (✠) give you peace.

[C]: Amen.

BE SEATED

577

Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations



1 Rise, O Light of Gen - tile na - tions, Je - sus, bright and
 2 Know - ing you and your sal - va - tion, Grate - ful love dare
 3 May our zeal to help the hea - then Be in - creased from
 4 Sav - ior, shine in all your glo - ry On the na - tions



Morn - ing Star; Let your Word, the glad - some ti - dings,
 nev - er cease To pro - claim your ten - der mer - cies,
 day to day, As we plead in true com - pas - sion
 near and far; From the high - ways and the by - ways



Ring out loud - ly near and far, Bring - ing
 Gra - cious Lord, your heav'n - ly peace. Let us
 And for their con - ver - sion pray. For the
 Call them forth, O Morn - ing Star. Guide them



free - dom to the cap - tives, Peace and com - fort
 sound the gos - pel ti - dings To the earth's re -
 man - y faith - ful work - ers, For the gos - pel
 whom your grace has cho - sen Out of Sa - tan's



to the slave, That the hea - then, free from
 mot - est bound That the sin - ner has been
 they pro - claim, Let us all be cheer - ful
 dread - ful thrall To the man - sions of your



bond - age, May pro - claim your pow'r to save.
 par - doned And for - give - ness can be found.
 giv - ers To the glo - ry of your name.
 Fa - ther— There is room for sin - ners all.

Text: Herman Fick, 1822–85, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
 Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY	5:00 pm Catechism
WEDNESDAY	6:30 pm Mid-week Advent Service
THURSDAY	5:00 pm Elders Meeting
FRIDAY	8:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study @Cracker Barrel
SUNDAY	8:00 am Worship Inside (with Holy Communion) 9:15 am – 10:00 am Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Inside (with Holy Communion)

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Bryce Jones is presenting the flowers for the worship service today to celebrate the birthday of her sister, Justine Brown! We join Bryce in wishing Justine a fantastic birthday and pray that she and Carlos continue to grow closer to one another through the blessed bond of marriage. May Justine continue to grow in her faith and serve her Savior with joy! Happy birthday Justine!



POINSETTIAS



Help beautify the church for Christmas! Purchase as many plants as you would like! Your plant(s) may be taken home following the Christmas day worship service. The cost is \$8.50 per plant. There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board, or you can speak with Ann Wendt to get on the list.

FLOWER CHART

The 2021 flower chart is posted in the hallway. If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday of the year, please put your name down on that date and the occasion, if desired. The cost of the flowers this year will be \$35.00.

<u>Operating Offerings</u>		<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Mortgage Progress</u>	
12/2 & 12/6/20	\$ 3,670.00	8:00 am	23	12/6/20	\$ 2,115.00
Month to Date	\$ 3,670.00	10:30 am	15	Month to Date	\$ 2,115.00
YTD	\$ 195,842.00	Total	38	YTD	\$ 42,985.00
Budget YTD	\$ 230,615.00			Budget YTD	\$ 32,255.00
2019 YTD	\$ 194,090.00			2019 YTD	\$ 31,285.00

Weekly needs December Operating Offering **\$ 4946.00**
Monthly Mortgage Payment **\$ 2,867.00**

Reminder: On-line giving is available on our website should you be unable to join us for worship. Remember to watch the worship service online when you are not here!

All Scripture readings from The New International Version. (2011). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

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