

Resurrection Lutheran Church

New Life in the Living Word + For Now + Forever

1735 E Main Street - Mankato, MN | 507-345-4455 | www.resurrectionmankato.org



The Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch, Pastor

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

↓ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The psalmist writes: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the path everlasting." We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about the mistakes we make. In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God:

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Gracious God,

C: Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear. Set us free from a past that we cannot change and grant us grace to grow more and more into your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

P: God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life. It is true that we have sinned. But it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God He says, "your sins are forgiven."

C: Amen!

↑ **GATHERING HYMN: On Jordan's Banks The Baptist's Cry.....RECLAIM No. 101**

↓ ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

L: Today, we gather around the Advent wreath to light our second candle: the candle of peace. Just as the angels announced peace and goodwill at the birth of Jesus,

C: At the end of time, Christ will come with the angels to usher in his eternal peace, in which He will reign forever.

L: We pray that his kingdom would come among us now by faith. A word from Isaiah: "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

C: And from John: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

L: As we light our advent candle, we thank you, Lord, for the peace you give. As we prepare for Christmas time, light of the world, shine on us. In our lives of confusion and stress bring peace to our hearts. To all who don't know you, light of the world, shine through us.

C: In this world of pain and darkness help us to share the peace you give. In our service here today, light of the world, light the way. In the midst of conflicts near and far, two candles shine with the peace of God's mercy for us and our world. In peace, we turn our eyes to this second flame, the flame of the angels.

L: Let us pray...

All: Gracious God, Grant that we may find peace as we prepare for our Lord's birth. May divisions in ourselves and in our families be peacefully resolved. May there be peace in our cities and in the countries of our world. Help us to see the paths of peace in our lives, and then give to us courage to follow them. Lord, let us remember that you only are the giver of lasting peace and that you are always with us. Amen.

L: As the first and second candles are lit, please join in singing our Advent Verse:

(Tune: Angels, from the Realms of Glory)

Now it's time to light the candle, Messengers prepare the way.

Wolf and lamb lie down together; Righteousness marks God's new day.

Light will overcome the darkness: Live the peace the Christ Child brings.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-7b (ESV)

¹“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. ⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts. ⁶“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 66:1-12 (ESV)

R: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C: sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

R: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

C: All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."

R: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

C: He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him,

R: who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

C: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

R: who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

C: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

R: You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;

C: you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

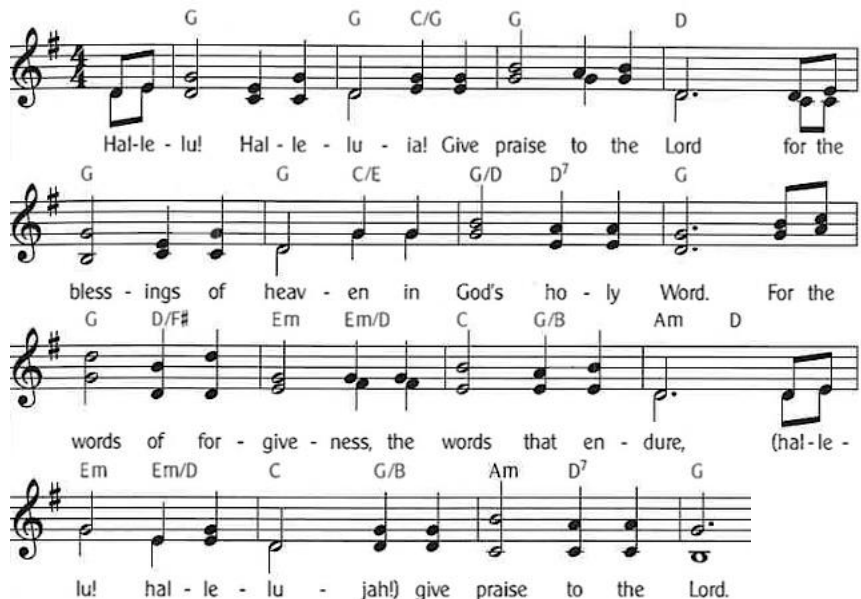
SECOND READING: Philippians 1:2-11 (ESV)

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

↑ THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Hal-le - lu! Hal - le - lu - ia! Give praise to the Lord for the
bless - ings of heav - en in God's ho - ly Word. For the
words of for - give - ness, the words that en - dure, (hal - le -
lu! hal - le - lu - jah!) give praise to the Lord.

GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:1-14 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 3rd Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" ⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" ¹¹And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do

likewise.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” ¹³And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

↓ **HYMN OF THE DAY: Chief of Sinners though I Be.....RECLAIM No. 187**

OFFERING and OFFERING RESPONSE

As ushers bring forward the offering, please stand to sing the Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

↑ **THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with the words *Lord, in your mercy*. Please respond by saying *Hear our prayer*.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who John the baptizer heralded as the anointed One, the very Lamb of God, calling sinners to repent, to escape the judgement of his coming. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name; evermore praising you, and singing...



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of pow'r al - might - y.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All who are baptized, have been instructed properly, and trust God's Word are welcome to communion, where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. If partaking, please sign a blue card and place in the offering plate or give to an usher so our records are complete.

BENEDICTION

↓ **SENDING HYMN: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** (*see bulletin insert*)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

Keyboardist: Nikki Basel

Reader: Marlene Kunard

Ushers: Brad Matthes and Don Peterson

Greeters: Harvard and Karen Jaeck

Tech Team: Mike and Vicki Youngerberg

Communion Set-Up: Darlene Korstad

Communion Assistants: Harvard and Karen Jaeck

Ministers: Every member of Resurrection Lutheran

CONTACT OUR PASTOR

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