



ASCENSION
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Divine Service
Second Sunday in Advent

Friends of God,

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths
straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Luke 3:4b, 6

*Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the living God,
have mercy on me,
a sinner.*

The Jesus Prayer
Luke 18:9-14

We find by losing. We hold fast by letting go. We become something new by ceasing to be something old. This seems to be close to the heart of that mystery.

I know no more now than I ever did about the far side of death as the last letting-go of all, but I begin to know that I do not need to know and that I do not need to be afraid of not knowing. God knows. That is all that matters.

Out of Nothing he creates Something. Out of the End he creates the Beginning. Out of selfness we grow, by his grace, toward selflessness, and out of that final selflessness, which is the loss of self altogether, "eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man" what new marvels he will bring to pass next.

Frederick Buechner
A Room Called Remember

DECEMBER 4, 2022 ✝ 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We are so glad that you are here! This is God's House and He put the wiggle in children, so please feel completely at home and try these tips from parents who've gone before you:



Sit towards the front: That's where children can easily see the procession, note the colors and watch the pastor and leaders.

Help your child look and listen: Tell them key words that will be used often. Point out crosses, banners and other reminder of Jesus and His Good News.

Participate joyfully! Sing, fold your hands for prayer, stand and kneel. Bring them to the Communion rail for a blessing. Your child will model your actions. He or she watches everything that you do.

Involve your child: Encourage them to say and pray their parts: "*Amen. Lord have mercy. I believe... Our Father...*" Ascension at Prayer allows you to learn songs and prayers ahead of time so that children recognize them as their own.

If You and Your Child Must Leave: There is a nursery for emergencies, but please come back. What we do here promises to engage your children little-by-little and shape them powerfully and forever.

If you need help, just ask! We are here to serve Jesus who said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Luke 18:16)



ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION

Our greatest desire is to share in the blessing of the Lord's Supper with you! Since this meal unites us spiritually by faith in the Word of God, we ask that you come having prepared your heart. Please read the following questions. If your answer to each is "Yes" then joyfully receive the Lord's gift in His Sacrament.

- Do you come to the Lord's Table for assurance of forgiveness, healing from doubt and shame, and to receive God's gift of a holy life and reconciliation through Jesus?
- Have you been baptized and confirmed (or otherwise made public confession of your Christian Faith)?
- Do you believe Jesus' words, that the bread and the wine are, in fact, His own body and blood, given and shed for you?

If your answer to a question is "No", we invite you to join our study of God's Word between services and please approach our pastors anytime for clarification or direction. In the meantime, we invite you to receive a blessing by folding your hands over your heart when you come forward. If you choose to remain seated, please join us in praying for the day when God removes all our division

Gathered Together...

PRELUDE

Canon de Noel

arr. Martin

Please stand and turn to face the cross in the procession.

ENTRANCE HYMN

343 Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

INVOCATION

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

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

Kneel or sit forward.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for 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.

Stand.

INTROIT



3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom-ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

L Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Sit.

Thou Christian heart,
Whoe'er thou art,
Be of good cheer
and let no sorrow move thee!
For God's own Child,
In mercy mild,
Joins thee to Him;
how greatly God must love thee!

Paul Gerhardt
O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is, LSB 372

...Around the Word...

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 11:1-10

A The Old Testament is from Isaiah, the eleventh chapter.

There shall come forth a shoot
from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots
shall bear fruit.
And the Spirit of the LORD shall
rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and
understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the
fear of the LORD.
And his delight shall be in the fear
of the LORD.
He shall not judge by what his eyes
see,
or decide disputes by what his
ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall
judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the
meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with
the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips
he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt of
his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his

loins.
The wolf shall dwell with the
lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down
with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the
fatted calf together;
and a little child shall lead
them.
The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down
together;
and the lion shall eat straw like
the ox.
The nursing child shall play over
the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put
his hand on the adder's den.
They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the
knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who
shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of
him shall the nations inquire, and his
resting place shall be glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The history of every people is also a history of its craziness, and the more science becomes a religion, the more religion must pretend to be a science, desperate for all logical explanations.

Joshua Cohen

The Netanyahus, p. 176

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*Ancient Plain Song, 13th Century
arr. Theron Kirk*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer, our spirits by Thine advent here: and drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light!

EPISTLE

ROMANS 15:4-13

A The Epistle is from Romans, the fifteenth chapter.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the
Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Stand.

ALLELUIA



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3:1-12

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for

baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume 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. Even 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.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible. *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy. 6:4*
Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3
Genesis 1:1; John 1:1
Colossians 1:16

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. *Romans 10:9*
John 3:16; Matthew 16:16
John 1:2
John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1
Colossians 2:9
John 1:2
John 10:30
Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3
1 Timothy 2:4p Romans 3:23
John 4:41; Luke 15:20
Luke 1:34-35
John 1:14
Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18
John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53
1 Corinthians 15:4
Acts 1:9
Acts 7:55
Matthew 26:64
Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12
2 Peter 1:11

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. *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
Genesis 1:2; 1 John 3:6
John 15:26
Lk 2:14
Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21
1 Pt 2:5; Eph. 2:19-22
Ephesians. 4:5; Acts 2:38
1 Cor. 15:35-49; 1 Thess. 4:13-18
Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42
Psalms 106:48

Us men means all people. Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

Sit. The pastor may invite the children forward for a children's message.

HYMN OF THE DAY

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, And let us all our
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

SERMON

Faith in the Highest and Deepest—Jesus.

Stand.

SUPPLICATION OF THE FAITHFUL

- P** Heavenly Father, strengthen us, your unworthy servants, for Your service with the power of Your Holy Spirit.
- C** Now let us, the faithful, proclaim the death of the Lord, confess His resurrection, and await His coming with joy. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

OFFERING

Tithes and offerings may be place in the plate at the rear of the sanctuary.

Please sign the red books found at the end of each pew as the pastor shares this week's announcements.

The Lord's Supper is joyfully received here today. Those who have publicly confessed this sacred gift and its blessings are encouraged to prepare their hearts (see page 2) and to commune with us. Those who do not wish at this time to drink from the chalice, may take an individual cup from the table to their place at the rail. (Grape juice is available in the center). The pastor or minister holding the chalice will invite you to "take and drink".

...and Blessed

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the Holy Church, that God would nourish her with faith through His Word and Sacraments as she looks for Christ's return, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the Church, that she would prepare the way for Jesus' return by preaching Law and Gospel and by faithfully hearing God's Word, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For families and communities, that they would fulfill their calling to love and forgive and grow in the fear, love and trust of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For civil authorities, that they would govern with justice and righteousness as leaders appointed by God to protect the innocent, punish the wicked and work for the common welfare of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and suffering, that as the day draws near when the wolf will dwell alongside the lamb and pain and destruction will be no more, God would grant them patience, comfort and healing according to His will. We pray especially for...

our members:

Doris Falconieri

Peri Hertzog

Ted Cash

Matt Kreun

John Strohschein

Elaine Elston

those at home:

Hazel Peek

Jackie & Richard Elam

Bob & Louise

Nordman

Mary Seiler

Ann & Del Weers

Mary Keefauver

those dear to us:

Burrill Family

Jenny Parker

Cindy Sauer

Betsy Batton

Robert Bradley

Matthew Wegman

Jim Melton

Ione

Revels Family

Elaine Miller

Elizabeth & Drew

Nancy Cad

Michelle McCraven

Elizabeth Marciniak

Matt Jamison

Joyce Haynes

Stephanie Nixdorf

Anne Gowin

Belinda Lummus

Moul Family

let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Father, unite us in giving thanks for one another, holy precious gifts that show forth Your image through the forgiveness and love of our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless...

our family birthdays:

Rebecca Thompson

Lindsay Tinkelenberg

Bryn Allston

let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L Grant, heavenly Father, that all who commune this day would be stirred by Jesus' body and blood to make ready His way, and that we be kept in joy and sustained in hope through every trouble and trial of this mortal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us share His peace with one another.

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you."

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

This is how to pray continually: not by offering prayers in words, but by joining yourself to God through your whole way of life so that your life becomes one continuous and uninterrupted prayer.

St. Basil the Great

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

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,
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

Matt. 26; Mk. 14; Lk. 22; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

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."

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - - - men.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free; From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art, Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.</p> | <p>2 Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king! Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.</p> |
|---|---|

346 When All the World Was Cursed

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 When all the world was cursed By Moses' condemnation, Saint John the Baptist came With words of consolation. With true forerunner's zeal The greater One he named, And Him, as yet unknown, As Savior he proclaimed.</p> | <p>2 Before he yet was born, He leaped in joyful meeting, Confessing Him as Lord Whose mother he was greeting. By Jordan's rolling stream, A new Elijah bold, He testified of Him Of whom the prophets told:</p> |
|---|--|

3 Behold the Lamb of God
That bears the world's
transgression,
Whose sacrifice removes
The devil's dread oppression.
Behold the Lamb of God,
Who takes away our sin,
Who for our peace and joy
Will full atonement win.

4 O grant, dear Lord of love,
That we receive, rejoicing,
The word proclaimed by John,
Our true repentance voicing,
That gladly we may walk
Upon our Savior's way
Until we live with Him
In His eternal day.

When distribution is ended, please stand.

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.

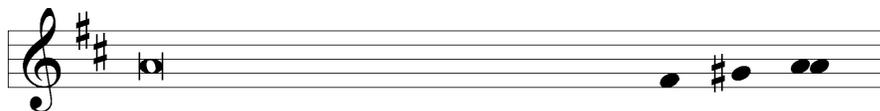
NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

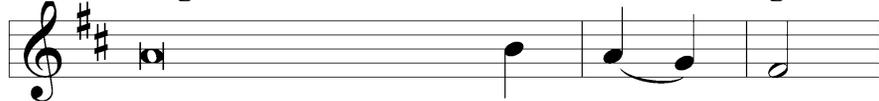
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.



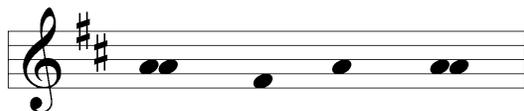
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1



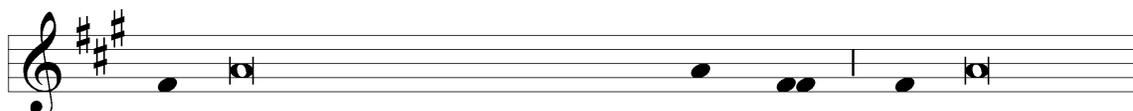
A Bless we the Lord.



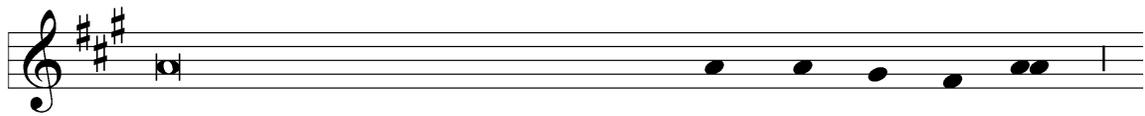
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

DEPARTING HYMN

359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



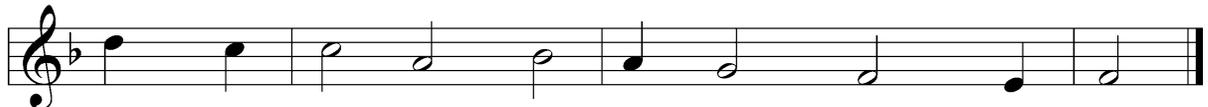
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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POSTLUDE

O Bride of Christ, Rejoice

LSB 335

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Steven Newberg
Director of Music Ministry: Stephanie Knott
Worship Leaders: Paula Henry/Paul Spokas
Communion Assistants: John Henry, Janell Schmidt/
Crucifers: Brady Knutson/Landen Meier
Acolytes: Natali Delozier, Soren Knutson/Jonah Meier, Pat Zacharczyp
Altar Guild: Kim Cates, Marlys Sielsky, Barbara Suddreth, Janie Swenson, Lindsay Tinkelenberg
Readers: Robin Domeier/Curt Kuechler
Greeters: Lisa Wyatt/Diane Beard
Ushers: Ted Cash, Fran Bolger/Jim Aydelott, Erik Jacobs, Jayson Ray
Sound & Video: Darren Seigler/Laura Kendall-Zacharczyp

Advent Midweek Services



Join us each Wednesday
December 7, 14

Dinner 6pm
Holden Evening Prayer 7:00pm

\$5 adults
\$3 children under 10

IN HIS SERVICE

Ascension Soup Kitchen: served lunch to 75 guests this Tuesday.

Ascension Food Pantry: distributed one week of groceries to 8 families – 15 family members on 11/28.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Ascension Soup Kitchen

The soup kitchen furnishes a hot, well-balanced and fresh lunch every Tuesday from 11am-12:00pm. Everyone is welcome! No ID or referral needed. Currently service is to-go for pick-up in the parking lot. We look forward to returning to restaurant-style service after the pandemic.

Ascension Food Pantry

The food pantry distributes a week's worth of healthy groceries to individuals with a Loaves and Fishes referral, Mondays and Fridays, 11am-1:30pm. *In need of a referral?* Call the church office at 704-372-7317. Anyone in need will be eligible for up to 12 weeks of groceries per year.



ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1225 E. Morehead Street
Charlotte, NC 28204

704-372-7317 MAIN NUMBER

Melanie Broome, Office Manager
admin@ascensioncharlotte.org

Patia Bowman, Administrative Asst.
bowman@ascensioncharlotte.org

Jon Greene, Facilities Engineer
facilities@ascensioncharlotte.org



Rev. Steven Newberg, Pastor
newberg@ascensioncharlotte.org

Stephanie Knott, Director of Music
Ministry
music@ascensioncharlotte.org

www.ascensioncharlotte.org

Welcome!

WORSHIP BROADCAST

Sunday Divine Services are broadcast live on the Internet at 8:30 and 11 a.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN SOUP KITCHEN

Every Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Serving to-go lunches in the parking lot.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

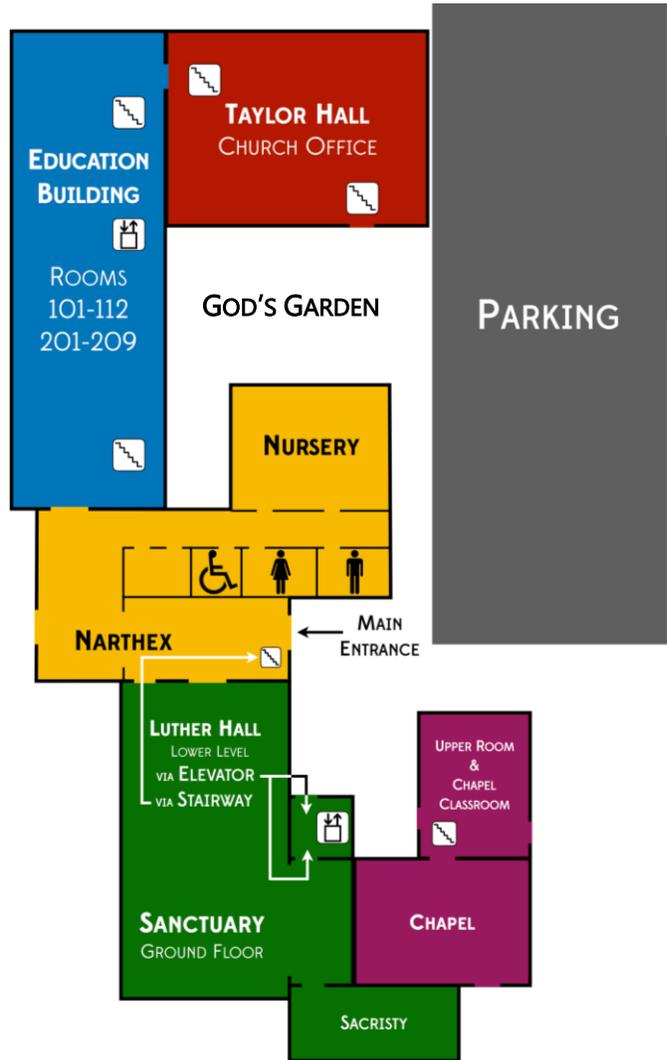
Find out the way we receive the Christian Faith in the Lutheran tradition each week.



ALCcharlotte



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RESTROOMS are located down the hallway at the back of the narthex.



A NURSERY for children age 3 and under is located across the hallway from the restrooms. The worship service can be seen and heard from the nursery. A baby-changing table is available in the accessible restroom.



ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES are available for check-out from the sound booth in the rear of the sanctuary.

THOSE IN CRITICAL NEED

Members needing financial or physical assistance, please contact pastor for application to the crisis fund or access to folks eager to lend a helping hand.