

**First Sunday in Advent
December 1, 2024
10:30 AM**



"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778
www.martinlutherchapel.org

Like an expectant mother, the church in Advent prepares for an arrival: we anticipate the celebration of Jesus' birth and look forward to Christ's coming again at the end of history. But here and now--in scripture and preaching, in water and bread and wine--God comes to us. Christ's arrival in today's world is furthered through our witness: like the Advent wreath, we also are to bring light into the darkness.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

[P] In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

[C] Amen.

[P] Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **[C] Amen.**

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

[P] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

[P] Most merciful God,

[C] We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

[P] Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

[C] Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE *Share a greeting of peace with those around you.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN **“The Advent of Our King”**

1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain

And we must hymns of wel-come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him-self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

ST. THOMAS
S M

P From the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty:
grace, light, and peace be with you all. **C** **And also with you.**

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

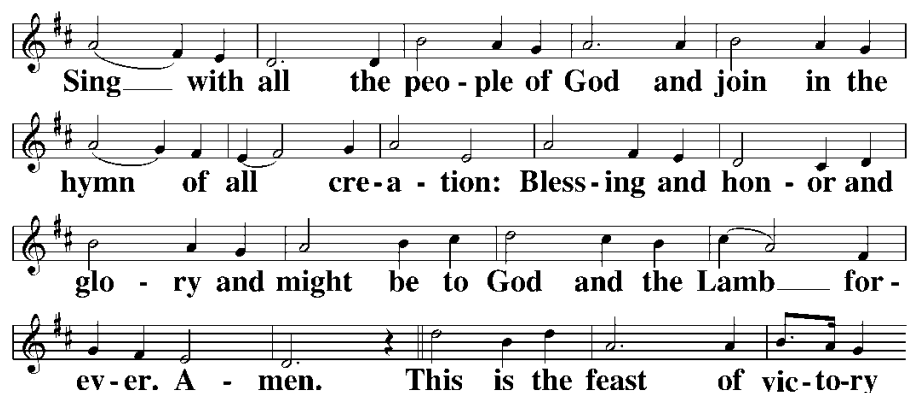
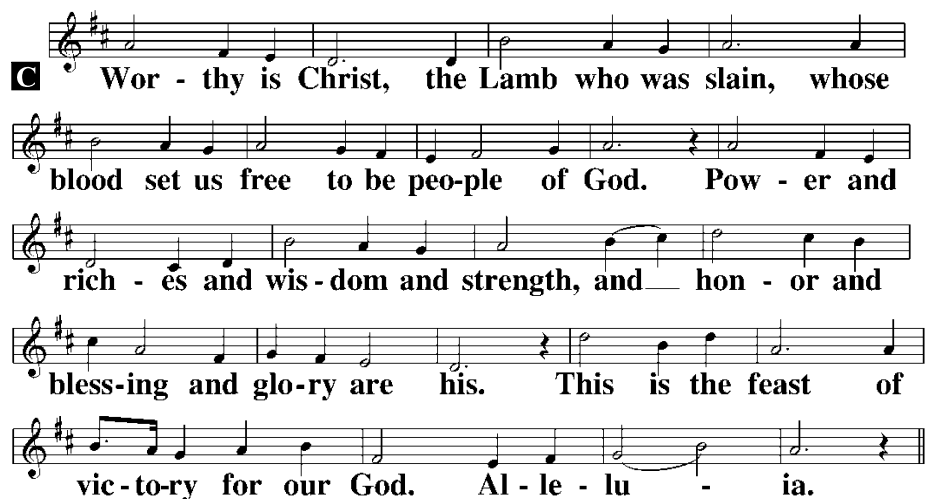
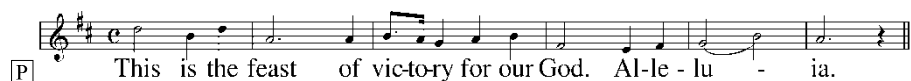
P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

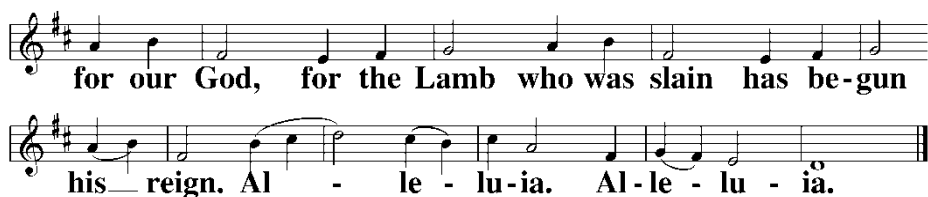


P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.





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

P Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Hebrew scriptures, righteousness is not so much a moral virtue as the fulfillment of the responsibilities of a relationship among people or with God. God acts righteously in speaking against Israel's faithlessness and in working salvation for them. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name--"The LORD is our righteousness"--serves as a sign that the Lord is even now working salvation for the people.

R The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

From Timothy, Paul hears about the faithful congregation in Thessalonica and is moved to express his thanks to God. He prays that the congregation may grow in love and holiness until "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints."

R How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

intro: one chord



GOSPEL [P] The Gospel is written in Luke chapter 21 beginning at verse 25.

[C] Glory to You, O Lord.

When God brings the creation to fulfillment, there will be dismay, perplexity, fright, and shaking heavens. But with this vision also come words of assurance: for the faithful, it will be a time not to cower in fear, but to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[P] [Jesus said:] "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord. **[C] Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator 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 again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

MESSAGE "Be Alert at All Times"

Stand

HYMN

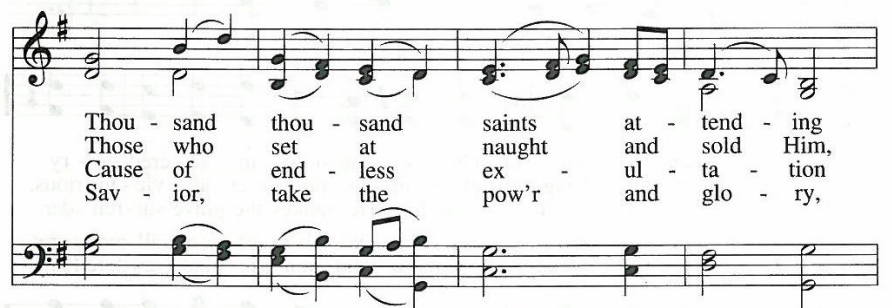
"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"



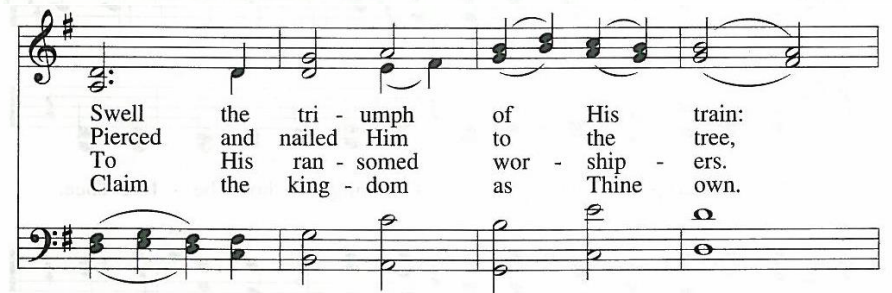
1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
Those who set at naught and sold Him,
Cause of His end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
Claim the king - dom as Thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Tune: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99; setting: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt.

HELM斯LEY

87 87 12 7

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with “Lord, in your mercy,” to which the congregation responds, “hear our prayer.” The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** **Amen.**

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



Give Now

OFFERTORY MUSIC

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand



introduction


C Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of
all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer.
Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

P Let us pray. O Mighty One,

C you have done great things for us, and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you--our selves, our time, and our possessions-- that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

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.

LAMB OF GOD

introduction

C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

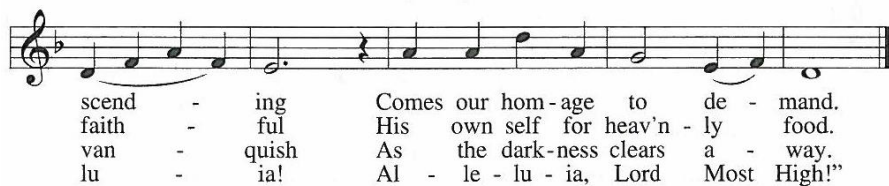
Sit
THE DISTRIBUTION *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

HYMN “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As man of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence

For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
As with cease-less voice they cry: “Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-85, alt.
 Tune: French, 17th cent.

PICARDY
 87 87 87

Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT AND PRAYER

intro: one chord

C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
 he has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joyce
 and proud-ly bear his name. He re-calls his prom-is-es and
 leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
 giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P Let us pray. O God, in this eucharist you give us a foretaste of that day when all the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds, and to proclaim the greatness of your name.
 Grant this through the one whose advent is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

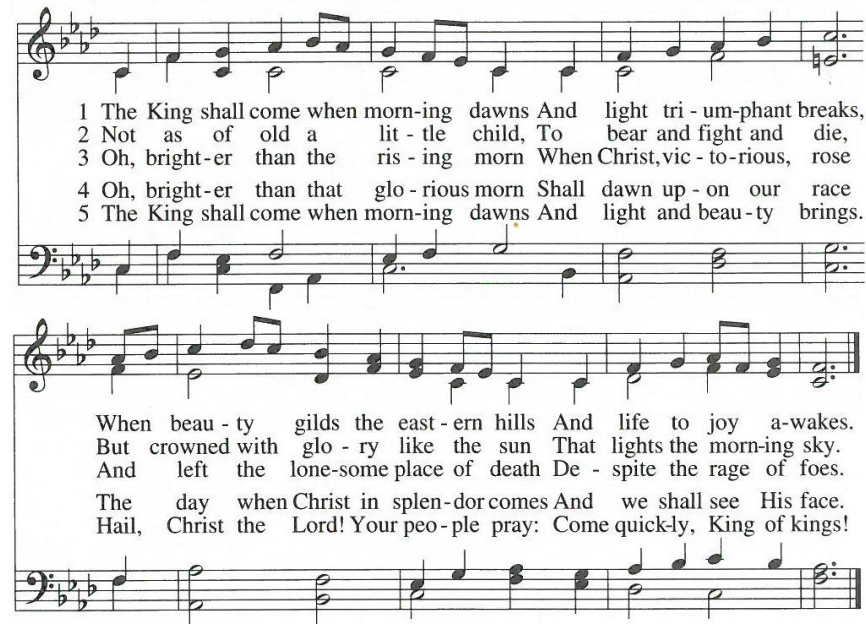
BENEDICTION

- 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.

- P** Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

HYMN “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.

When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text and Tune: Public domain, Setting © 2006 Concordia Publishing House

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;

b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.
