

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

711 Court Street Pekin, IL 61554-1735

(309)-347-2136/2137

Web site: stjohnpekin.com Email: stjohnsec@grics.net

Rev. Daniel J. Bishop, Pastor

Joel Kilgus - Good Shepherd Lutheran School - 347-2020

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 8, 2024

Christ's blessings to all! **To our visitors**, we rejoice to have you gathered together with us in our Lord's House this day & look forward to having you with us again. If you are searching for a Church home, **please introduce yourself to Pastor** afterwards, or indicate such together **with your contact information** in the red 'Fellowship Booklets' located in each pew.

The Order of Service without Holy Communion

Prelude

Hymn – #63

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Stand

Invocation:

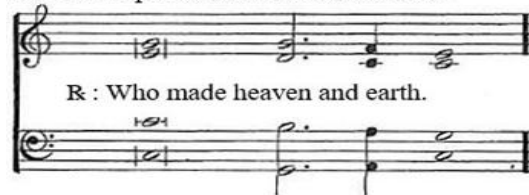
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.



The Confession of Sins:

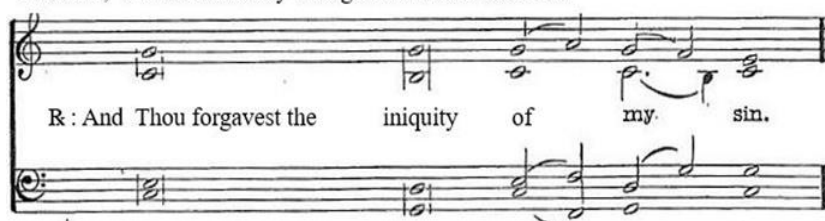
Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

V: Our help is in the name of the Lord.



R: Who made heaven and earth.

V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

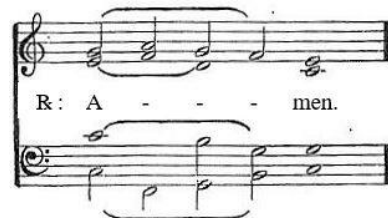


R: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.



Introit: Ps. 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!

O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

But my people did not listen to my voice;

Israel would not submit to me.

Oh, that my people would listen to me,

that Israel would walk in my ways!

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Kyrie

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

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

The Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high: β : And on earth peace; good will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up - on us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Salutation:

V: The Lord be with you.

R: And with thy Spir - it.

Let us pray.

The Collect for The Day:

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.

R: A - - - - men.

Sit

The Catechism Review – The Ten Commandments

What is The First Commandment?

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

What is The Second Commandment?

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

The Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3:1-7b

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.”

The Epistle: Philippians 1:2-11

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

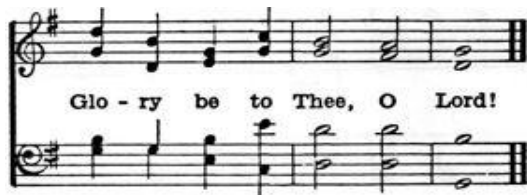
³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. 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.

Stand



Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



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.

⁵ Every 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,

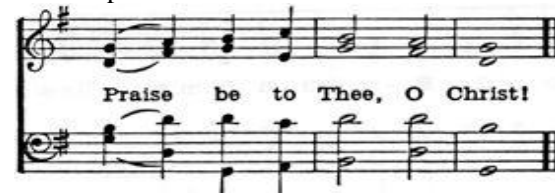
⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

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 your selves, ‘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 the Lord.



The Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Sermon Hymn: #235, v. 1, 7, 8

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

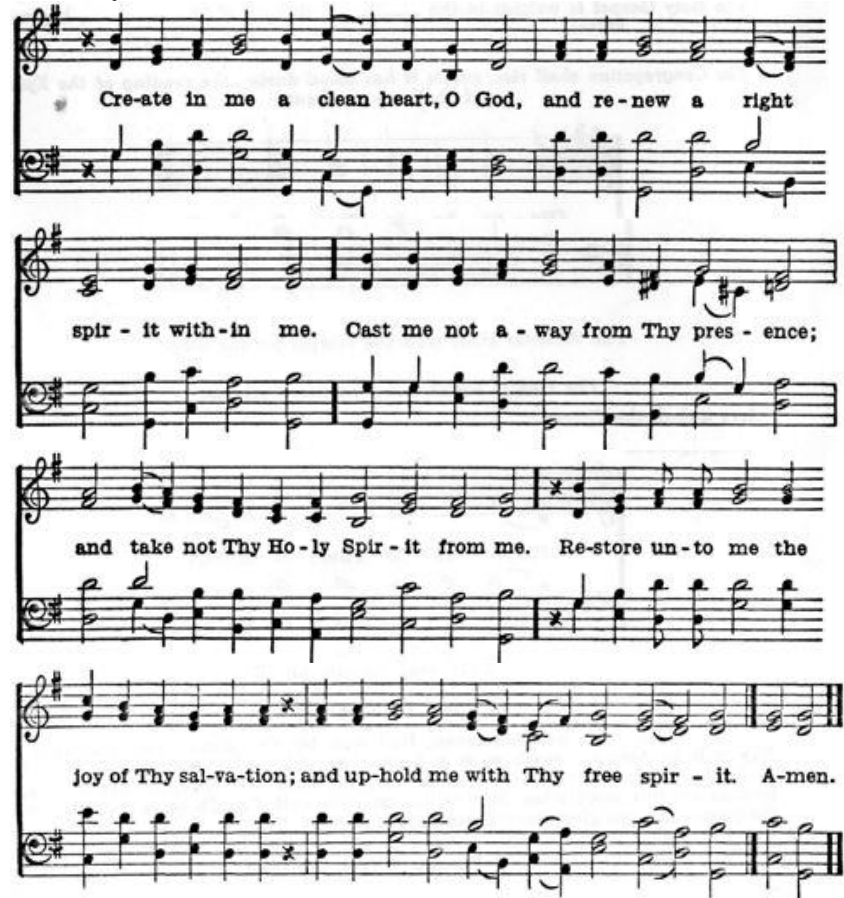
Sermon: “Trees that Produce Good Fruit”

Luke 3:9

- I. God requires us to produce good fruit, and will punish those who do not.
- II. God works in us to produce the good fruit He requires.

Stand

Offertory



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.

Sit

The Offering

Stand

The General Prayer

The 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.

Sit

Hymn: #60

“Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding”

Stand

The Collect for the Word / Church



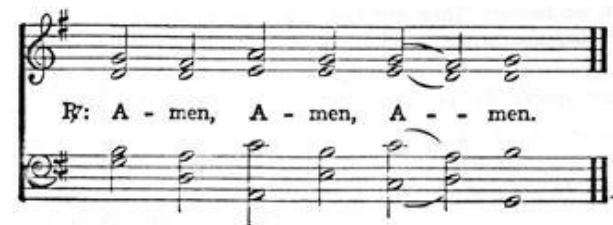
By: A - - - - men.

The Benediction

The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.



By: A - men, A - men, A - - men.

Sit

Closing Hymn: LSB #691

“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en
2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er
3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern
4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,
loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,
and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,
har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



Rich in love and joy and peace.
Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.
Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.
Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Text: © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001420
Tune: © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001420

Silent Prayer & Postlude

DAILY READINGS: December 8: Is. 24:14–25:12; 1 John 2:15–29; 9: Is. 26:1–19; 1 John 3:1–24; 10: Is. 26:20–27:13; 1 John 4:1–21; 11: Is. 28:14–29; 1 John 5:1–21; 12: Is. 29:1–14; Jude 1–25; 13: Is. 29:15–30:14; Rev. 1:1–20; 14: Is. 30:15–26; Rev. 2:1–29.

The Introit, Collect, and Gradual are from *Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book*, copyright © 2006 CPH. All Scripture quotations, including those from *Lutheran Service Book*, are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

© CPH Printed in USA Concordia Publishing House
• Your church’s publisher • Visit us at CPH.org 24122