# **OUR WORSHIP SERVICE**

SERVICE OF THE WORD - Christian Worship pg. 38

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend of Advent

# December 8 & 9, 2019



elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our service we gather before Jesus our Savior to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. Also,

- *f* Restrooms are down the hall and to the right from the back of church.
- \* We love families! Your children are welcome in our service! Thanks for bringing them to hear about Jesus! If you would like, there are children's bulletins with crayons in the back of church and a cry room in the back of the sanctuary.
- *t* Please fill out the Friendship Registers located at the end of each row.
- f If you want to review or share today's service, you can find it on our website.
- *f* For upcoming events and activities, "like" us on our Facebook page.

Please come again and worship with us very soon!

TODAY'S THEME: PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD WITH REPENTANCE

# **Worship Participants**

Liturgist	Pastor Brian Adams
Preacher	Pastor Jacob Hoff
Pianist	Mrs. Rachel Manske

THE OPENING HYMN
Christian Worship Supplement #702
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It
King of kings is near! Let ev - 'ry hill and own e - ter - nal King! Palm branch - es strew be - greet your prom - ised King! Your King, yet ev - 'ry comes from heav'n a - bove. His rule is peace and
val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear! fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing! na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring. free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.
Then greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall All lands, bow down be - fore him! All na - tions, So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness
sa - cred sto - ry: doubt as - sail you! now a - dore him! Ho - san - na to the so a - bound - ing:
Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

2

Please Stand

#### THE INVOCATION

- **P:** 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.

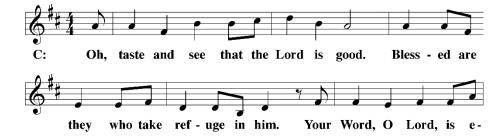
# **THE CONFESSION OF SINS**

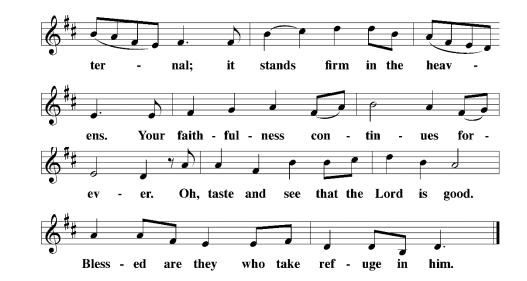
- **P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from 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.
- **P:** 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**

**P:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## **OH, TASTE AND SEE**



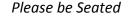


#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.





# **THE WORD**

## THE FIRST LESSON .....

......Daniel 4:19-37

Then Daniel (also called Belteshazzar) was greatly perplexed for a time, and his thoughts terrified him. So the king said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its meaning alarm you."

Belteshazzar answered, "My lord, if only the dream applied to your enemies and its meaning to your adversaries! <sup>20</sup> The tree you saw, which grew large and strong, with its top touching the sky, visible to the whole earth, <sup>21</sup> with beautiful leaves and abundant fruit, providing food for all, giving shelter to the wild animals, and having nesting places in its branches for the birds— <sup>22</sup> Your Majesty, you are that tree! You have become great and strong; your greatness has grown until it reaches the sky, and your dominion extends to distant parts of the earth.

<sup>23</sup> "Your Majesty saw a holy one, a messenger, coming down from heaven and saying, 'Cut down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump, bound with iron and bronze, in the grass of the field, while its roots remain in the ground. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven; let him live with the wild animals, until seven times pass by for him.'

<sup>24</sup> "This is the interpretation, Your Majesty, and this is the decree the Most High has issued against my lord the king: <sup>25</sup> You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox and be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes. <sup>26</sup> The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that Heaven rules. <sup>27</sup> Therefore, Your Majesty, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue."

<sup>28</sup> All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>29</sup> Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, <sup>30</sup> he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?"

<sup>31</sup> Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. <sup>32</sup> You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that

the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes."

<sup>33</sup> Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.

<sup>34</sup> At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever.

His dominion is an eternal dominion;

his kingdom endures from generation to generation.

<sup>35</sup> All the peoples of the earth

are regarded as nothing.

He does as he pleases

with the powers of heaven

and the peoples of the earth.

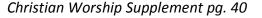
No one can hold back his hand

or say to him: "What have you done?"

<sup>36</sup> At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. <sup>37</sup> Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.







.Psalm 14



The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.

- The LORD looks down from heaven on the <u>sons</u> of men to see if there are any who understand, any <u>who</u> seek God.
- All have turned aside, they have together be<u>come</u> corrupt; there is no one who does good, not <u>even</u> one.

#### Refrain

Will evildoers <u>nev</u>er learn those who devour my people and do not call <u>on</u> the LORD?

- You evildoers frustrate the plans <u>of</u> the poor, but the LORD is their <u>re</u>fuge.
- Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of <u>Zion</u>! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Israel rejoice <u>and</u> be glad!
- Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,
- as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning, is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

#### Refrain

THE SECOND LESSON...... Acts 3:19-26

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup> and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. <sup>21</sup> Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. <sup>22</sup> For Moses said, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from their people.'<sup>1</sup>

<sup>24</sup> "Indeed, beginning with Samuel, all the prophets who have spoken have foretold these days. <sup>25</sup> And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.'<sup>2</sup> <sup>26</sup> When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

#### **VERSE OF THE DAY**

**P:** Alleluia! Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia! (*Luke 3:4,6*)

Please Stand

### 

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea<sup>2</sup> and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup>This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Deuteronomy 18:15,18-19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Genesis 22:18 & Genesis 26:4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Isaiah 40:3

<sup>4</sup> John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup> People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. <sup>6</sup> Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

<sup>7</sup> But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup> And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup> The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

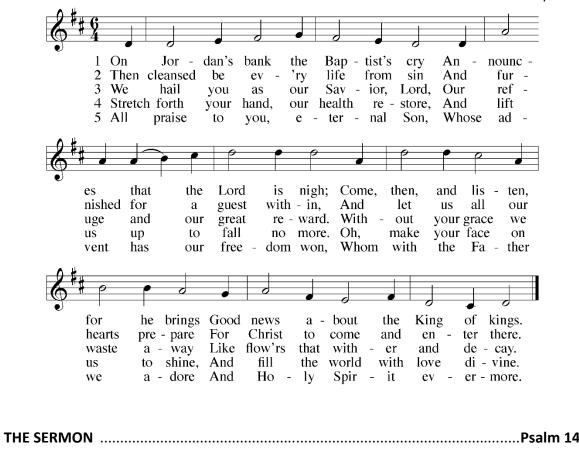


Please be Seated

Produce fruit in keeping with repentance







<sup>1</sup>The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."
They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.
<sup>2</sup>The Lord looks down from heaven on all mankind
to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God. <sup>3</sup> All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.
<sup>4</sup> Do all these evildoers know nothing?
They devour my people as though eating bread; they never call on the Lord.
<sup>5</sup> But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous.
<sup>6</sup> You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor, but the Lord is their refuge.
<sup>7</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

Please Stand

#### THE APOSTLES' 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.

Please be Seated

# THANKSGIVING

#### THE OFFERING

(We invite you to sign our Friendship Registers in each pew during the offering.)

#### THE OFFERING PRAYER

Please Stand

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

**P:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE BLESSING

**P:** 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.



Please be Seated

#### CLOSING HYMN ... "O Lord. How Shall I Meet You" Christian Worship #18 you, How 1.0 Lord. how shall meet wel - come 2 Love caused tion: Love in brought you vour car - na -3 Re joice, then. you sad - heart ed, Who in sit fear - ful den. Let 4 Sin's debt. that bur not your 5 He comes to judge the na tions, A ter - ror a - right? Your vou peo - ple long to greet vou. down to me. Your thirst for my sal - va tion Who deep - est gloom, mourn o'er joys de - part ed souls dis - tress; Your guilt the Lord will par don his foes. Α light of con - so to la tions. \_ 0 Hope, my heart's De - light. My Je sus, let vour Pro - cured my lib - tv. Oh, love be - vond - er all And trem - ble at vour doom. De spair not; he is his He cov - er by grace. comes. for you pro -And Who And bless - ed hope to those love the Lord's ap -Word be to light To show Α lamp me my way, ing tell -That led you to em - brace In love. all you, He's stand - ing door Who best at the can near His cur ing The peace of sin for giv'n, chil - dren ing. 0 glo-rious Sun, now Send forth your pear come, you, To day. how to please guide me ev - 'rv love ex - cel ling, Our lost and fall - en race! you And help and cheer bids you weep no more. thus se cur ing Α her - i tage in heav'n. cheer ing, And beams most guide us safe - ly home. -

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BAPTISM:** Last Sunday, Beckham James Worzala was received into God's kingdom through holy baptism. Beckham is the son of Rick & Tiffany Worzala. Serving as his godparents are Brandon Schmitt & Megan Ashbaugh. May the Lord bless this family as they grow together in Christ.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**: This weekend's altar flowers are given by Andy & Chris Backus in memory of Chris's son, Robert Pocza's birthday.

**CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE:** This weekend, the Mary and Martha Society will be selling boxes of Christmas cookies before and after each service. The cost is \$8.00 per box. The proceeds from this sale fund the ongoing efforts of Mary and Martha as well as their support of missions. Thank you to all those who donated cookies and also those who purchased cookies. Your support is much appreciated.

**CALL MEETING:** A call meeting for a 6th grade/upper grade teacher is planned for today, Sunday, December 8th at 11:30 AM. Our current teacher, Mr. Mayer, was called to this position for only a single year and would be eligible for this call as well. If you would like to add a name for consideration please contact Principal Schulmeister by December 1st, as the Synod would like to have all names prepared before the meeting. We encourage all voting members to be in attendance.

**CHURCH DECORATING**: The Confirmation classes at St. Paul's and their families are asked to help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. The church decorating will take place today, Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> after the Voter's Meeting. We will begin at about 12:00 PM.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE & MEAL:** On Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> we will be having our only Midweek Advent worship service. The Board of Elders will also be serving a meal prior to the service beginning at 5:00pm. If you would like to contribute a dessert for the meal, please use the sign-up sheet on the narthex counter. Monetary donations are welcome at any time, and there will be a free-will offering gathered at the meal.

**10 FOR 10 COMMITMENT CARDS**: If you turned in a commitment card during our "10 for 10" stewardship emphasis, the cards are back in your church mailboxes. Thank you for your prayerful reflections on your giving habits.

**ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD CAROLING:** We are once again planning to do our "Neighborhood Caroling" on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity to invite our neighbors around the church to our worship services at Christmas. Anyone is welcome to join us. We will meet in the school at 6:00 pm. We will then walk to one of the neighborhoods in the area. Everyone is invited to come to the parsonage afterwards and have some of Pastor Adams' chili. If you are able, you are invited to bring some Christmas cookies to share that night as well at the parsonage.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**: Please make note of the many upcoming opportunities for worship! Join us!

Advent Service – Wed., December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM (join us for dinner in the school lobby at 5:00 PM!)

Preschool & Junior Kindergarten Christmas Service – Friday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM

Children's Christmas Service – Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4:30 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 PM

Christmas Day Service – Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

New Year's Eve Service – Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM

**GREETERS:** Thank you to everyone who greeted before worship services this year! Please let Cory in the office know if you no longer wish to greet, otherwise you will be placed on the schedule for the new year. If you have not greeted before, please consider signing up to greet a couple times this year. We need additional greeters for all services. If you are interested in signing up to greet, please place your completed form in the Greeter bin on the narthex counter by the end of December.

**USHERS**: Current ushers – a new usher schedule is in your church mailbox. We currently have (4) open spots in both services. Please consider serving your congregation in this way. If you are able to help or have any questions, please contact Kyle Brightsman at (414) 335-2906 or kgb5217@gmail.com.

**PRESCHOOL POWER HOUR:** Join us at Power Hour two Thursdays a month! Open to children ages 0-4 with their caregivers. Meet us in the church narthex from 10:45-11:45 AM on the following dates: December 19, January 16, February 6 & 20, March 5 & 19, April 2, May 7 & 21. There are extra flyers on the narthex counter to share with a friend!

**WLHS CHRISTMAS POPS CONCERT:** Enjoy early Christmas merriment at the annual WLHS Christmas Pops Concert on Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. The concert features bands, choirs, and instrumental ensembles at the high school. Admission is free. Enjoy a reception of Christmas cookies, coffee, and punch after the concert.

**WLHS SACRED CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** The annual WLHS Sacred Christmas Concert will take place on Sunday, December 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the WLHS auditorium. The concert features the A Cappella, Cantorei, and Freshman Choirs of WLHS, Inspiration, Jubilation Handbell Choir, Wisconsin Lutheran Children's Choir, and numerous instrumentalists. Admission is free.

**LUTHERAN CHORALE CONCERT**: The Lutheran Chorale of Milwaukee is pleased to present it's "Prelude to Christmas" concert under the theme "Comfort and Joy". This concert will take place at Trinity Lutheran Church (1052 White Rock Ave., Waukesha) on December 1<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 and 4:30 PM. A free will offering will be collected to support the choir's ministry. More info at lutheranchorale.org.

**LUTHER PREPARATORY CHRISTMAS CONCERTS**: Join Luther Prep for their Christmas Concerts; Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM and Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Concerts will be held in the gymnasium.

# VOLUNTEERS

# **GREETERS FOR THIS WEEK (December 8 & 9)**

8:00 AM – Jacque & Doreen Vallier
10:30 AM – John & Karen Milazzo; Cameron, Trevor, Logan & Kendall
6:30 PM – Donna LaBlanc

GREETERS FOR MIDWEEK ADVENT (December 11) 6:30 PM – Andy & Chris Backus

#### **GREETERS FOR NEXT WEEK (December 15 & 16)**

8:00 AM – Dave & Dawn Brightsman 10:30 AM – Tony & Mary Tripoli 6:30 PM – Joan Shevey

### **USHERS FOR DECEMBER**

8:00 AM – TEAM #4 – Pete Kosovich, Craig Gebert, Matt Gebert, Gordy Lesser, Adrian Boldt
10:30 AM – TEAM #8 – Walter Falkowski, Terry Ganyo, Jacob Marciniak, Fred Socha, Scott Seymer
6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Terry Plant, John Kiesow

#### USHERS FOR MIDWEEK ADVENT (December 11)

**6:30 PM** – TEAM #1 – Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Brandon Wirtz, Gary Boldt

#### ALTAR GUILD

Dec 4-10 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh Dec 11-17 – TEAM #2 – Jane Koplein, Joan Shevey, Rebecca Kragh

#### **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE**

Dec 8: Set-up – Pete & Sherry Kosovich, Clean-up – Larry & Marion Klug Dec 15: Set-up – Don & Marge Gebert, Clean-up – Beverly Garves

#### THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, December 8

Mary & Martha Cookie Sale	Before & After Services
Worship Service	
Adult Bible Study/Sunday School/PSCIC	
Worship Service	
Call Meeting	
Church Decorating	

#### Monday, December 9

Worship Service	6:30 PM
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Tuesday, December 10 Church Council	6:30 PM
Wednesday, December 11	
Advent Meal	5:00 PM
Advent Worship Service	6:30 PM
Thursday, December 12	
Men's Basketball	7:30 PM
Friday, December 13	
School Devotion	8:30 AM
Wedding Rehearsal	
Saturday, December 14	
School Cleaning	9:00 AM
Cyganiak/Nora Wedding	
Sunday, December 15	
Worship Service with Communion	8:00 AM
Adult Bible Study/PSCIC/Sunday School	
Worship Service with Communion	
Christmas Caroling	

#### Statistics – Last Week

Attendance: 8:00 AM – 126, Communed – 92 10:30 AM – 111, Communed – 87 6:30 PM – 47, Communed – 37 Total Attendance – 284 Total Communed – 216 Thanksgiving Eve Service – 127 / Thanksgiving Day Service – 53