



THE MISSION OF THIS CONGREGATION IS TO:

**PRAISE** God

**PROCLAIM** the message of Jesus Christ

**REACH OUT** with this message to people of  
all backgrounds and cultures

**CREATE A COMMUNITY** of Christian  
support, love, and forgiveness.

**Williams Bay Lutheran Church Worship**  
**December 8, 2024 at 9:30 am**  
**Service of the Word and Holy Communion**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

December 8, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading: Week 2

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might, **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst, **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

**ELW 264**

Greeting: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

First Reading:

Malachi 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But 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; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.  
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Reading:

Luke 1:68-79

<sup>68</sup>Blessed are you, Lord, the <sup>1</sup> God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and <sup>1</sup> set them free.  
<sup>69</sup>**You have raised up for us a <sup>1</sup> mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your <sup>1</sup> servant David.**  
<sup>70</sup>Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us <sup>1</sup> from our enemies,  
<sup>71</sup>from the hands of <sup>1</sup> all who hate us,  
<sup>72</sup>**to show mercy <sup>1</sup> to our forebears, and to remember your <sup>1</sup> holy covenant.**  
<sup>73</sup>This was the oath you swore to our <sup>1</sup> father Abraham:  
<sup>74</sup>to set us free from the hands of our <sup>1</sup> enemies,  
**free to worship you <sup>1</sup> without fear,**  
<sup>75</sup>**holy and righteous before you, all the days <sup>1</sup> of our life.**  
<sup>76</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of <sup>1</sup> the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to pre- <sup>1</sup> pare the way,  
<sup>77</sup>**to give God's people knowledge <sup>1</sup> of salvation  
by the forgiveness <sup>1</sup> of their sins.**  
<sup>78</sup>In the tender compassion <sup>1</sup> of our God  
the dawn from on high shall <sup>1</sup> break upon us,  
<sup>79</sup>**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- <sup>1</sup> ow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the <sup>1</sup> way of peace.**

Second Reading:

Philippians 1:3-11

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, *continued next page*

how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Gospel:

Luke 3:1-6

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Pastor Tom

*Silence for Reflection*



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
 2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
 Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Apostles' Creed: **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.  
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come 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**

Prayers of Intercession

*Petitions conclude with:* Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Peace The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering - *Please be seated as we pass the offering plates.*

## MEAL

Offering Hymn

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 184



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.

Offering Prayer

Words of Institution for Holy Communion

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.**

All are Welcome to receive the Lord's Meal at His table.

Hymns during Communion: "Lamb of God"



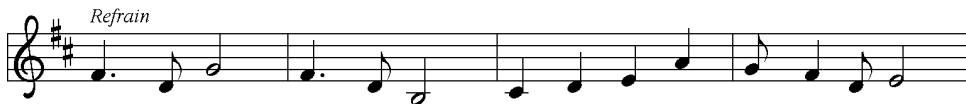
1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

"Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

ELW 492



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joyce in your pres-ence.



1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;  
2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - dant, nev - er turn a - way.  
3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.  
4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joyce!  
God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.  
Those who seek the Lord will lack noth-ing; taste, and have your fill.  
Rise to tell God's great-ness for - ev - er, won-drous deeds pro - claim!

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW 257 (v. 1-4)



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.  
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Table Blessing

**SENDING**

Sending Prayer and Blessing





1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
 soul - to cure, and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751  
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

Dismissal

Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; *With One Voice*, stanzas, based on Ps. 34  
 : STONERIDGE, Jeremy Young  
 id music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–1980  
 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.