

**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**

God of mercy
and consola-
tion, help us in
our weakness
and free us
from sin.

Hear our
prayers that
we may rejoice
at the coming
of your Son,
who lives and
reigns with
you and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for
ever and ever.
Amen.



The First Sunday in Advent

December 2, 2018 + 9:00 and 11:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. Christ enters into Jerusalem on a donkey! Why do we have this Gospel reading at the start of Advent, as we prepare to celebrate His birth? The answer is simple: both Christ's birth at Bethlehem and His entry into Jerusalem teach us who Jesus is: He is "the One who comes in the name of the Lord!" Our Lord Jesus comes for you and for the whole world, not only back in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, but even today, in this very liturgy of preaching and Holy Communion.



Sharing God's Blessings Today

- Flowers do not adorn the chancel during the Advent season.
- The Radio Broadcast and Flower sponsor sign-up charts for 2019 will be available later in December.

Advent Sermon Series: "Liturgy: Receiving the Gifts!"

Liturgy is simple: it is receiving the gifts of God.

What are the gifts of God? They are the Word of God and whatever He attaches to it, such as water, bread, and wine. When God attaches His Word to something, it changes that thing, turning it into a little place where Jesus lives and works (even you!).

When do we receive these gifts? We receive them whenever we hear and trust God's Word and use it to call on Him in prayer. It happens at worship; in daily devotion at home or with friends; or in conversation at work, school, and wherever we may be.

Liturgy is simple: it is God speaking His Word and giving His gifts through worship and devotion.

Preludes During Advent

A prelude played with chimes alone sounds a different note for us this season, a stark contrast to the mad rush of noise and color and travel that surrounds us. It's simple, quiet, and plain, the sounds of a patient heart that beats in the joyful yet still confidence of the Lord's promise to come soon.

Announcements

Parish announcements may be found in the weekly newsletter, *For You*, provided by the ushers after worship.



PRELUDE

A Collection of Hymns for Advent I

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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**

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.

Please kneel. Silence for reflection.

Our Lord Jesus has promised that “wherever two or three are gathered in My Name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matt. 18:20). God has also declared that His eyes will be turned to wherever He puts His Name (1 Kings 8:29). God has put His Name on the Church in Holy Baptism. Our liturgy therefore begins with that Name “of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” It gathers us into the promise that God is here, in our midst, having turned on us the eyes of His favor.

Our Lord Jesus has promised His Church that "whatever sins you forgive, they are forgiven; whatever sins you do not forgive, they are not forgiven" (John 20:23). The Church therefore retains or forgives sins with God's own authority (Matt. 16:19). Our liturgy includes this direct forgiveness of sins, spoken "in the stead and by the command" of Jesus. The pastor speaks it as an ambassador of Christ – it is a gift from His own hand.

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 announce the grace of God to 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**

Please stand.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Come, O Precious Ransom" green hymnal #24

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ 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 holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

CHORAL RESPONSE (9:00 a.m.)

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

... John A. Behnke

Our Lord Jesus has promised, "Ask, and it will be given you" (Matt. 7:7). He further promises that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (Joel 2:32). Trusting in this promise, we pray to God in the liturgy using the very words of those who cried out to Jesus in the gospels: "Lord, have mercy!" (Matthew 15:22) To ask for His mercy is to ask for His help and deliverance. This Biblical prayer is a simple way of trusting in God's listening ear.

Our Lord Jesus has promised that "the Law of Moses, the prophets, and the Psalms" were written about Him and testify to His salvation (Luke 24:44). He further promises that He builds His Church "on the foundation of the prophets and the apostles" (Ephesians 2:20). Our liturgy therefore includes readings from both the Old and New Testaments and usually includes a Psalm. We trust these words, which Jesus Himself affirmed and used, to speak to us still today.

OLD TESTAMENT Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵In 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. ¹⁶In 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."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9

L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; |
my God, I put my 'trust in you;*
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph 'over me.

**C: Let none who look to you be 'put to shame;*
let the treacherous be disappointed 'in their schemes.**

L: Show me your 'ways, O LORD,*
and teach 'me your paths.

**C: Lead me in your 'truth and teach me,*
for you are the God of my salvation; |
in you have I trusted all 'the day long.**

L: Remember, O LORD, your compas'sion and love,*
for they are from 'everlasting.

**C: Remember not the sins of my youth and 'my transgressions;*
remember me according to your love |
and for the sake of your good'ness, O LORD.**

L: Gracious and upright 'is the LORD;*
therefore he teaches sinners 'in his way.

**C: He guides the humble in 'doing right*
and teaches his way 'to the lowly.**

L: All the paths of the LORD are 'love and faithfulness*
to those who keep his covenant and his 'testimonies.

**All: Glory to the Father, and 'to the Son,*
and to the 'Holy Spirit;
as it was in 'the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen**

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? ¹¹Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



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,



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.

*Our Lord Je-
sus has prom-
ised His apos-
tles that
"whoever
hears you
hears
me" (Luke
10:16). He
further prom-
ises that His
apostles will be
His witnesses
in all the
world (Acts
1:8). Our lit-
urgy therefore
receives the
words of these
apostles as the
words of God,
too. The
"Epistle" is
always a read-
ing taken from
one of their
writings. We
trust God to be
almighty and
merciful
enough to
speak to us, as
He has prom-
ised, through
these very first
preachers of
the Church.*

Our Lord Jesus promises that His words are "full of Spirit and life" (John 6:63). The Bible further teaches that His words are "the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). Our readings therefore culminate with a reading from the gospels, which contain the very words that Jesus spoke. We stand for these words to confess to both the world and to ourselves that we live and stand by these words, and will one day even rise by them.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 19th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁸And when [Jesus] had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say this: 'The Lord has need of it.'" ³²So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. ³³And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴And they said, "The Lord has need of it." ³⁵And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was drawing near—already on the way down the Mount of Olives—the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, ³⁸saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" ³⁹And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples." ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for ✕ the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Please be seated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:00 a.m.)

During the singing of the hymn, children of preschool age through grade 4 may leave for Sunday School classes downstairs in the church hall. Please reclaim your children at 10:25 a.m. after their music time in the balcony.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Savior of the Nations, Come” green hymnal #28

SERMON

“Jesus with His Saints”

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

P: . . . let us pray to the Lord,

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

Our Lord Jesus has promised that “the preaching of the cross” is the “power of God,” and that God is “pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe” (1 Cor. 1:18-21). He further promises that faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17). Our liturgy therefore includes preaching based on Scripture. We trust that even now He comes to us through the proclamation of His Church.

Our Lord
 Jesus has
 promised that
 "whatever
 you do to the
 least of these,
 you do to me"
 (Matthew
 25:40). He
 further prom-
 ises that
 "God loves a
 cheerful
 giver" (2 Co-
 rinthians 9:6-
 7). Our lit-
 urgy there-
 fore includes
 an offering
 for the sup-
 port of the
 Church and
 the care of the
 poor. We
 trust that this
 generous giv-
 ing is really
 the Lord's
 own giving as
 His Spirit
 works
 through us to
 accomplish
 His will in
 the world.

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

Please be seated.

OFFERING

While the offerings are received, please pass in your row the **Friendship Register**, and add your name(s). If you are a guest or visitor, please include your address.

VOLUNTARY

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

... John A. Behnke

Please stand.

OFFERTORY

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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and

give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . Gracious Father, with this bread and cup, we remember the life our Lord offered for us. Believing in the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

☩ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

☩ We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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

SANCTUS ("Holy")

☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Our Lord Jesus has promised that He is "with you always, to the end of the age" (Mathew 28:20). He further promises that the kingdom of God is like a wedding feast, and the end of the age will feature a great feast that gathers believers from all the ends of the earth (Matthew 22:2; Luke 13:29). Our liturgy therefore includes the great feast that Christ has prepared for us. The kingdom of God and the end of the age come even now in the breaking of the bread!

Our Lord Jesus has promised that the bread "is my body" and the wine "is my blood" at Holy Communion (Matt. 26:17ff, Mark 14:12ff, Luke 22:7ff, and 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). Our liturgy therefore recalls this promise at the great Supper, and we receive the bread and wine not as mere food, but as the very body and blood of Jesus our God, the same body and blood that were conceived in the Virgin Mary, born at Bethlehem, crucified at Jerusalem, and now raised for our sake.

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 the 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 of it, in remembrance of me."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

ACCLAMATION

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")

☐ 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.

Please be seated.

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives ours sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Fling Wide the Door" green hymnal #32

"People, Look East" blue hymnal #626

Our Lord Jesus has promised that His blood was "poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matt. 26:28). He further promises that He "became sin" so that we "might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21). Our liturgy therefore leads us to sing to Jesus at Holy Communion in the conviction that He has taken away our sin and given us forgiveness in its place. We receive His body and blood in this same faith.

Our Lord Jesus has promised that He has brought blessing for the poor, the mournful, the hungry and thirsty, and many others (Matthew 5:3-11). He further promises that those who hear His word and do it are blessed (Luke 11:28). Our liturgy therefore concludes with a benediction, or blessing, spoken in the name of God, trusting that this public service of Gods' word has brought the blessing of His Son upon its hearers and now sends them forth as doers.

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ("The Magnificat")

My soul pro - claims your great- ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!

You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.

Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim

great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

A - men

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

"People, Look East"

... Jeffrey Blersch

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

Serving at Worship

Preaching: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

Presiding: The Rev. Christopher Johnson

Assisting: Vicar Joseph Pinzl

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Vocalists: (9:00) Ted Gulhaugen; Vicky Radunz; Jessica Ray;
Jim Speckhard; Betsy Utecht

Lector: (9:00) Jan Gaugush

(11:00) Paul Henning

Radio Announcer: (9:00) Dick Ames

Acolyte: (9:00) Noah Harter

(11:00) Sam Schubring

Elder: (9:00) Craig Zastrow

(11:00) Adam Holzschuh

Ushers: (9:00) Adele Blair; Donald Budnik;

Fred Fenhaus; Robb Halverson

(11:00) Al Lippert; Wayne Reuter

Communion Assistant:

(9:00) Ted Gulhaugen

(11:00) Donna Nuernberg

Altar Guild: Sally Christoffersen; Bonnie Waack

**A Prayer as
You Go**

Lord our
God, grant
that we may
be ready to
receive Christ
when He
comes in
glory and to
share in the
banquet of
heaven,
where He
lives and
reigns with
you and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for
ever and
ever. Amen.

Acknowledgements

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“The King Shall Come when Morning Dawns”: Public Domain.

“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness” are used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB129062.

Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

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Senior Pastor Steven K. Gjerde
Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Pastoral Assistant Joseph C. Pinzl
Kantor Irene Beethe
Children’s Catechist Ivan Beethe
Parish Nurse Lenore Grosinske
Office Manager Pam Gabriel
Secretary Anna Mae Zeinemann
Custodian Michael Renken

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www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click “Listen Live” at www.wsau.com)

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