



## Luther Memorial Church

### Holy Communion

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY, DEC. 12, 2021

## Welcome!

*Please silence your cell phone in the nave.*

### LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

The 10:30 service is livestreamed on our website at [www.luthermem.org](http://www.luthermem.org) and YouTube. Cameras are installed in the nave, and worshipers may occasionally be visible on this broadcast.

### PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is reserved in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

### RESOURCES

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

### CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. A staffed nursery is available Sundays 9:15–noon.

### HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. Please ask a pastor for a gluten-free communion wafer, if needed.

### RECYCLE

Please recycle your bulletin in the basket in the narthex after the early service, or in the blue recycle bin after the 10:30 service.

### LEARN MORE

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more:

- Please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate
- Visit us online at [www.luthermem.org](http://www.luthermem.org) or Facebook

**PRELUDE** Settings on: *People, Look East and Prepare the Way, O Zion* | Robert J. Powell

## GATHERING

*Please turn and face the baptismal font at the rear of the nave.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

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.

**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

*Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the altar.*

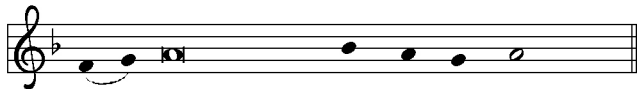
**#241 PROCESSIONAL HYMN** O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

### APOSTOLIC 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.**

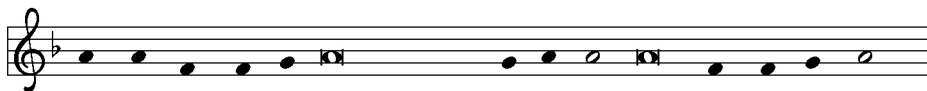
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



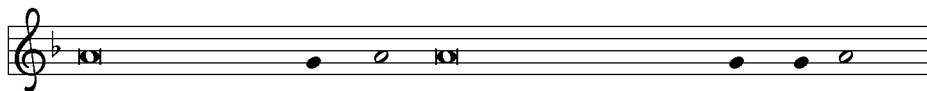
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



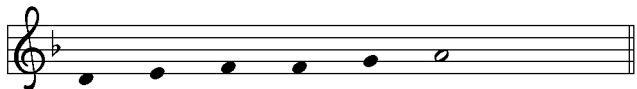
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Grant us, your people, the wisdom to see your purpose today and the openness to hear your will, that we may witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

*Please sit.*

### FIRST READING *Zephaniah 3:14–20*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM *Isaiah 12:2–6*

8:00 | *The cantor and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the cantor.*

10:30 | *The choir sings the antiphon, "In your midst is the Holy One of Israel," before and after the psalm.*

*The choir and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the choir.*



Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not | be afraid,\*

for the Lord God is my strength and my might, and has become | my salvation.

**With joy you | will draw water\***

**from the wells | of salvation.**

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call | on God's name;\*

make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations; proclaim that this name | is exalted.

**Sing praises to the Lord, who has done | gloriously;\***

**let this be known in | all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion,\*

for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel.

### SECOND READING *Philippians 4:4–7*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

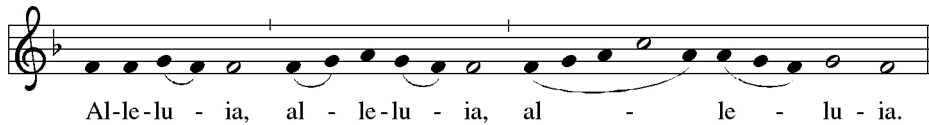
The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

8:00 | *Acclamation sung by all*



10:30 | *Acclamation sung by all*

Choir: See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.

*All repeat acclamation.*

**GOSPEL** *Luke 3:7-18*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John said 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? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please sit.*

**SERMON**

*Please stand.*

#266 **HYMN OF THE DAY** All Earth Is Hopeful

**8:00 | 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.**

#### 10:30 | AFFIRMATION OF FAITH & RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these new members, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism.

I present the following, who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism:

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brothers, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*I renounce them.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and

share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in them the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

#### PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please greet your neighbor: **Peace be with you.***

#### MEAL

*Please sit.*

#### OFFERING

#### MUSIC AT THE OFFERING

**8:00** | Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus | Robert J. Powell

**10:30** | Drop Down, O Heavens | Gerald Near

Drop down, O heavens from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your anger from us, O Lord, and no longer remember our iniquities: for behold, the city of the Holy One has become a desert, Sion a wilderness: Jerusalem a desolation: this hollowed and glorious house, where our fathers praised you.

We have sinned, and have become like the unclean; we are fallen like a leaf, our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our wickedness.

Behold, O Lord, the afflictions of your people, and send forth the Lamb, the ruler of the earth, from the Rock of the desert, to the mountain of the daughter of Sion, that he may take away the yoke of our captivity.

Be comforted, be comforted, O my people, for your salvation shall quickly come. Why have grief and sorrow consumed you? I will save you: do not fear: for I am the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, your Redeemer.

*Please stand.*

### OFFERTORY What Shall I Render

What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?  
I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing  
and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the  
pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,  
in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

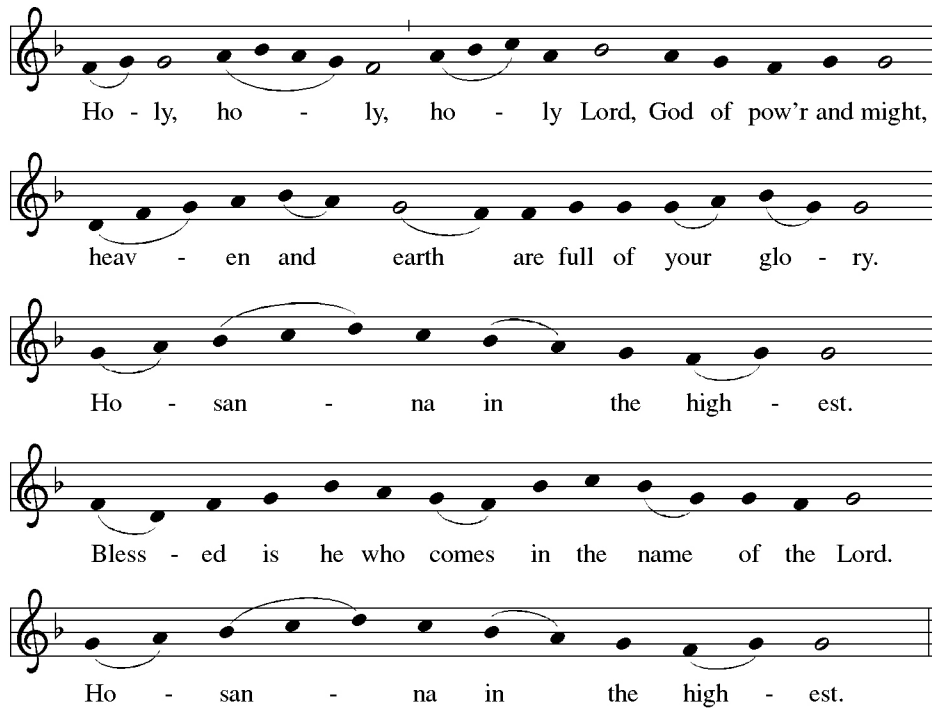
Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

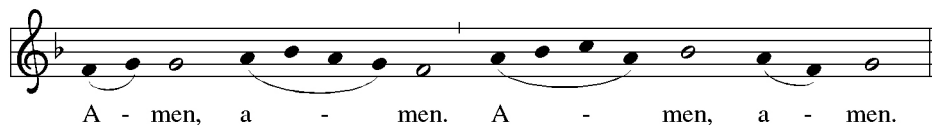
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore... now and forever.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

## LORD'S PRAYER

8:00 | *Spoken by all*

10:30 | *Sung by all*



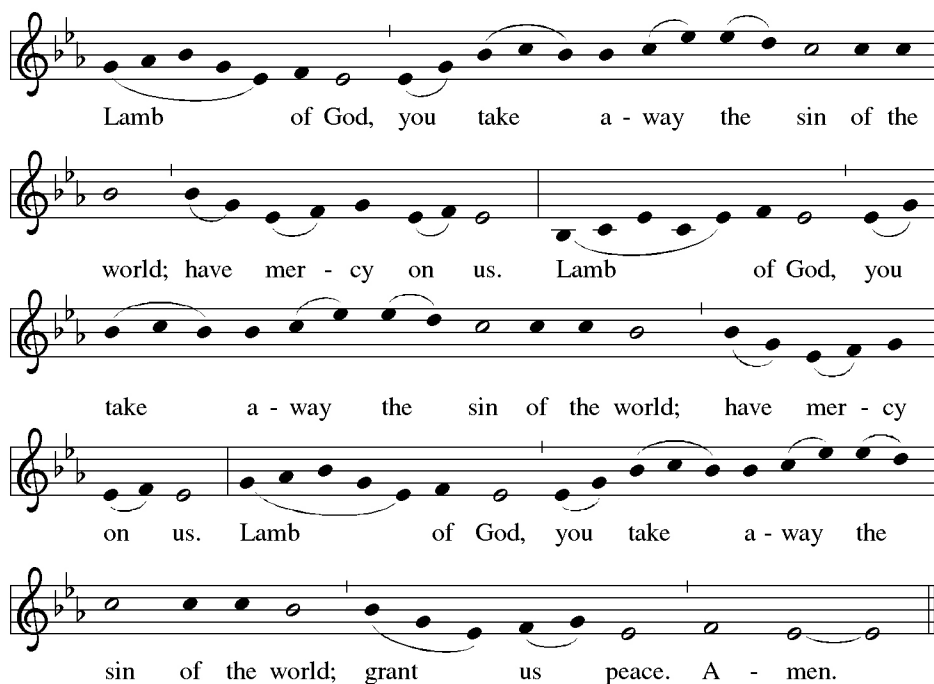
Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be  
thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,





on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our  
dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,  
as we for- give those who tres- pass a- gainst us; and lead us  
not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.  
For thine is the king- dom, and the pow- er, and the  
glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

*Please sit.*  
**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. A - men.

## THE COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread\*) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup; persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice. Persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread.*

*\*Gluten-free bread is available on request.*

**10:30 | MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus | Robert J. Powell

**#260 COMMUNION HYMN** The King Shall Come

*Please stand.*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

**Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the font.*

**#259 RECESSIONAL HYMN** Fling Wide the Door

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Fling Wide the Door | arr. Helmut Walcha



## TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Give yourself to me, my God; restore yourself to me. I show you my love, but if it is too little, give me strength to love you more. I cannot measure its shortcomings and learn how much more I need to love you in order that my life may hasten to your embrace and never turn away from you until it is hidden in the sanctuary of your presence. All that I know is this: that unless you are with me, and not only beside me but in my very self, for me there is nothing but evil; and whatever riches I have, unless they are my God, they are only poverty.

*Augustine, Bishop of Hippo*  
(354–430)

## SERVING TODAY

	8:00 am	10:30 am
<b>PRESIDER</b>	Pastor Brad Pohlman	Pastor Brad Pohlman
<b>PREACHER</b>	Pastor John Worzala Dumke	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Andrew Schaeffer	Andrew Schaeffer
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Beth Rahko	George Alexander
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANTS</b>	Barb Luedke	Kris Gruber-Twardy, Jane Hall, Janelle Allen
<b>LECTOR</b>	Caroline Oldershaw	Susan Berggren
<b>CRUCIFER</b>	Randy Burmeister	George Alexander
<b>SACRISTAN</b>	Sue Bangert	Cynthia Vander Woude
<b>HEAD USHER</b>	Jim Nelson	Carl Anderson
<b>VIDEO DIRECTOR</b>		Lee Powell
<b>SOUND OPERATOR</b>	Jon Schneider	

**We welcome Scott Johnson-Tews, Lucy Ryther, Karen Snowberg and Vasanth Subramanian,** who are becoming members of Luther Memorial today.

**Our thanks to Casey Oelkers,** flute, for playing this morning.

**Today we remember the inurnment of Harold Sumi** in the LM columbarium. The congregation is invited to visit the columbarium and read his page in the memory books.

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