

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Gaudete



DECEMBER 17, 2023

LEBANON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lebanon Church, VA

THE PREPARATION

Stand

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C **Amen.**

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

P 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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C **Amen.**

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*

you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*

again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

- C** Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Epistle

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

A The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 4.

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 80:1–2

- P** You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*
Stir up your might and come to | save us!
Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*
you who lead Joseph | like a flock!

Stand

Verse

Psalm 80:2b

- C** Alleluia. Stir up your might and come to save us. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–11

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



1 “Com - fort, com - fort ye My peo - ple, Speak ye peace,” thus
 2 Yea, her sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out each
 3 Hark, the her - ald’s voice is cry - ing In the des - ert
 4 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; Make the rough - er



saith our God; “Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn - ing
 dark mis - deed; All that well de - served His an - ger He no
 far and near, Call - ing sin - ners to re - pen - tance, Since the
 plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be -



’neath their sor - rows’ load. Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem
 more will see or heed. She hath suf - fered man - y a day,
 King - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
 fits His ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



Of the peace that waits for them; Tell her that her
 Now her griefs have passed a - way; God will change her
 Now pre - pare for God a way; Let the val - leys
 Now o’er earth is shed a - broad, And all flesh shall



sins I cov - er And her war - fare now is o - ver.”
 pin - ing sad - ness In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
 rise to meet Him And the hills bow down to greet Him.
 see the to - ken That His Word is nev - er bro - ken.

Sermon

Votum

Philippians 4:7

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

Sit

When the altar is prepared, we stand for the Offertory

Offertory

Psalm 51:10–12

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Our Lord

Lord's Prayer

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Administration

Stand

Thanksgiving

Psalms 107:1

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with thy spirit.**

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

- P** Bless we the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Dismissal

- P** The Service is ended, go in peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Acknowledgments

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Prayer Requests

Rev. Bill White, Fran Reidy, Steve Lowe, Margaret Daley, John Marshall, Mary Artz, Ruth Rickard, Kathryn Flynn, Roger Hockman, George and Rose Beauchesne, J.J. Peterson and family, Orville, for laborers for the Lord's Vineyard, for the Lutheran Church in the Valley, for vision for the stewardship of property, for a full-time pianist, for the restoration of civil peace in Ukraine and Israel.

Congregational Budget Information

Needed each week: \$3,173.71. Sunday 12/7: \$3,012.00

This Week

Monday – ZOOM Ephesians Bible Study, 10am. **No Monday Evening Death and Dying Class...** we will resume after Christmastide.

Tuesday – Service at The Maynard at 11am.

Wednesday – Matins at 8:15am, Confession and Absolution at 10am, Vespers at 5:30pm.

Thursday – Pastor will be at the Lutheran Church in the Valley at 6:30pm. Choir Practice at 7pm.

Looking Ahead

Pastor will *install the new Council* on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST at the 11am Divine Service.

SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS SERVICES



CHRISTMAS EVE - *Sunday Morning at 11am, Divine Service.*

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT – *Sunday at 11pm, Candlelight Vigil with Holy Communion.*

CHRISTMAS DAY – *Monday Morning at 10am, Divine Service.*



PARISH INFORMATION

540-465-5456

lebanonlutheranchurch.org

10120 Middle Rd., Lebanon Church, VA 22641

Pastor Porter (mobile): 248-794-2263