

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Populus Zion



DECEMBER 10, 2023

LEBANON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lebanon Church, VA

WELCOME TO LEBANON LUTHERAN CHURCH

We are happy that you have joined us for worship today. If you are a visitor and seeking a church home, Pastor Porter or one of our members will be happy to assist you. Please feel free to take a Newsletter and one or more of the *A Short Explanation of...* books located in the vestibule.

If you are unfamiliar with liturgical worship, this bulletin includes the entire Order of Service for this Sunday. At the time of the Distribution of Holy Communion, the congregation may sing additional hymns from the *Lutheran Book of Worship* (LBW, the big green book). The hymn numbers are listed near the heading "Communion Hymns." We are ready to assist you with any questions you may have, and Pastor Porter regularly offers instruction in the liturgy for the sake of greater understanding and participation.

If you intend to commune this day, please review the Communion statement,

located under the SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT heading in this bulletin. It is our hope and prayer that all communicants will embrace our Confession of Faith as baptized Christians who desire to receive the Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament.

Please see the Parish Announcements at the end of this bulletin for congregational events, educational, and outreach opportunities.

We welcome families with children and understand that children wiggle and make noise. We encourage their presence in the Service and their own "joyful noises."

Families may make use of the room at the front entrance to the church (the overflow) or the nursery near the fellowship hall as a retreat if it is desired.

May our gracious God bless and edify you as we worship Him this day!

Soli Deo Gloria

The congregation assembles and offers silent prayer upon entering the pews.

Announcement

The ministers gather for the procession. The congregation stands for the Hymn.

Hymn of Expectation

The Advent of Our King



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
Text and tune: Public domain

THE PREPARATION

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.

John 20:19–23

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 In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

Psalm 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Isaiah 62:11b; 30:30, 29

Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,*

and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

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.

Say to the daughter of | Zion,*

“Behold, your sal- | vation comes.”

The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard,*

and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

Kyrie

O | Lord,*

have mercy u- | pon us.

O | Christ,*

have mercy u- | pon us.

O | Lord,*

have mercy u- | pon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 50:1-15

Antiphon: Call upon me in the day of | trouble;*

I will deliver you, and you shall glo- | rify me.”

**The Mighty One, God the LORD,
speaks and sum- | mons the earth*
from the rising of the sun to its | setting.**

Out of Zion, the perfection of | beauty,*
God | shines forth.

**Our God comes; he does not keep | silence,*
before him is a devouring fire,
around him a mighty | tempest.**

He calls to the heav- | ens above*
and to the earth, that he may judge his | people:

**“Gather to me my | faithful ones,*
who made a covenant with me by | sacrifice!”**

The heavens declare his | righteousness,*
for God him- | self is judge!

**“Hear, O my people, and I will speak;
O Israel, I will testify a- | gainst you.***

I am | God, your God.

Not for your sacrifices do I re- | buke you;*
your burnt offerings are continually be- | fore me.

**I will not accept a bull | from your house*
or goats | from your folds.**

For every beast of the for- | est is mine,*
the cattle on a | thousand hills.

**I know all the birds | of the hills,*
and all that moves in the | field is mine.**

“If I were hungry, I would not | tell you,*
for the world and its full- | ness are mine.

**Do I eat the | flesh of bulls*
or drink the | blood of goats?**

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanks- | giving,*
and perform your vows to the | Most High.

**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.**

Antiphon: Call upon me in the day of | trouble;*
I will deliver you, and you shall glo- | rify me.”

Epistle

Romans 15:4–13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify

the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

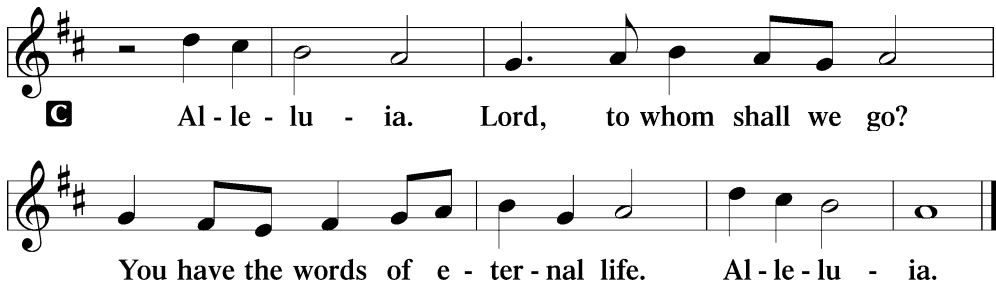
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:25–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.



G Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come

upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

Sermon

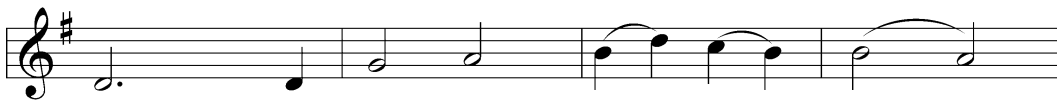
Stand

Hymn of the Day

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Nicene Creed

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

Prayer of the Church

Sit

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Baptized and repentant sinners who accept our doctrine, are not under church discipline, and who confess with us that the body and blood of the Lord are distributed and received with the bread and wine of the Sacrament are welcome to commune at this altar. Those who are not yet Baptized or who are unsure of their confession of faith may come forward for a blessing; approach the steps with arms crossed over chest to receive a blessing.

Offering

When the Offering has been received and the altar made ready, we stand for the Offertory.

Offertory

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19



C 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

A Merciful Father,

C We offer with joy and thanksgiving, what You have first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions – signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him Who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Preface

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

P The Lord be with you.

C And al-so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

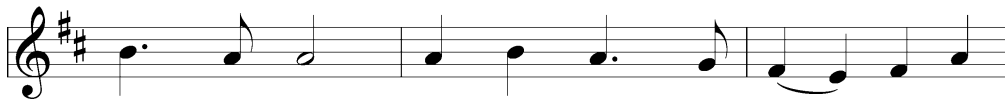
Proper Preface

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

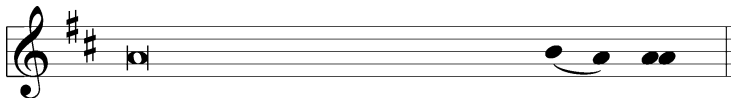
P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Lord's Prayer

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Sit

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C 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, grant us peace.

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who have been admitted to the Lord's Table.

Communion Hymn

Your Table I Approach

1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;

Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessèd Lord, That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

When all have Communed and returned to the pews, we stand for the Post-Communion Blessing.

Post-Communion Blessing

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

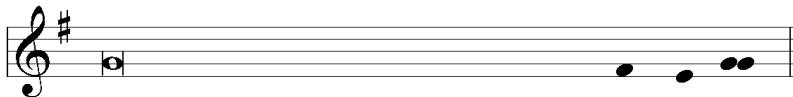
A Let us pray.

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.

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 A - men.

Hymn to Depart

Lord of Our Life



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, Star of our
2 See round Your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing; See how Your
3 Lord, be our light when world - ly dark - ness veils us; Lord, be our
4 Peace in our hearts, where sin - ful thoughts are rag - ing, Peace in Your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: Hear and re - ceive Your
foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing And with great spite their
shield when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; And in the day when
Church, our trou - bled souls as - suag - ing, Peace when the world its



Church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.
fi - ery darts are hurl - ing, O Lord, pre - serve us.
hell it - self as - sails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:
end - less war is wag - ing, Peace in Your heav - en.

Text: Matthäus Apelles von Löwenstern, 1594–1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799–1855, alt.
Tune: Antiphoner, 1746, Poitiers
Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements and Dismissal

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

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, 12/3: \$3,147.

This Week

Monday – ZOOM Ephesians Bible Study, 10am. *POSSIBLY we will meet for "Death, Dying, and the Christian Tradition" at 7pm at the church.* This will depend on Marty White's availability. I will keep the congregation informed. If he is unavailable at that time, we will resume sometime after the Christmas holidays.

Tuesday – Service at The Maynard at 11am.

Wednesday – Matins at 8:15am, Confession and Absolution at 10am, NO VESPERS at 5:30pm – Pastor will be attending Ben's Band Concert.

Thursday – Outreach Meeting at 6m, Council Meeting at 7pm.

Looking Ahead

There will be a second collection for a care package for Kathryn if you missed out on the first... See Teresa Gochenour for details.

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