

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN**  
**ADVENT**

DECEMBER 10, 2023



*Preaching the love of the Lord and teaching  
the people of Christ in the heart of Royal Oak  
since 1873 to Equip, Support, Serve, and  
Witness Where God Calls Us*

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*Senior Pastor*

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*Pastoral Student*



**St. Paul**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

202 E Fifth Street, Royal Oak, MI 48067

(248) 541-0613

[www.stpaulroyaloak.org](http://www.stpaulroyaloak.org)



**Opening Hymn**

"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come"

LSB 350



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for  
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and  
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -  
 4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!  
 Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,  
 ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,  
 sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,



O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty  
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es  
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I  
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er



let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.  
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!  
 will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.  
 we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**Invocation**

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

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

LSB 354

- P** Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside,  
**C** **And help me to receive You This blessed Advent-tide.**  
**P** From stall and manger low Come now to dwell within me;  
**C** **I'll sing Your praises gladly And forth Your glory show.**

*Kneel/Sit Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession and Absolution

*2 Peter 3; Various Texts*

- P** You ought to be in lives of holiness and godliness,  
**C** **but we are by nature sinful and unclean.** (Rom. 5:12)  
**P** You ought to be found by God without spot or blemish,  
**C** **But we have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.** (Is. 64:6)  
**P** You ought to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
**C** **but we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition, for I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.** (Psalm 51:5)  
**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.**  
**P** The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

✠ **Service of the Word** ✠

## Gradual

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

- L** Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*  
**C** **Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.**  
**L** Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\*  
**C** **righteous and having sal- | vation.**  
**L** Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*  
**C** **From the house of the Lord we | bless you.**

## Kyrie

LSB 204



- C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

LSB 341

- P** A righteous Helper comes to thee;
- C** **His chariot is humility,**
- P** His kingly crown is holiness,
- C** **His scepter, pity in distress.**
- P** The end of all our woe He brings;
- C** **Therefore the earth is glad and sings.**
- P** To Christ the Savior raise
- C** **Your grateful hymns of praise.**

## **Advent Carol**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LSB 357

2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.

*Refrain*  
Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also 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** **Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 40:1–11*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Chancel Choir** (8:15)

*Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord/Larkin*

## **Epistle**

*2 Peter 3:8–14*

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

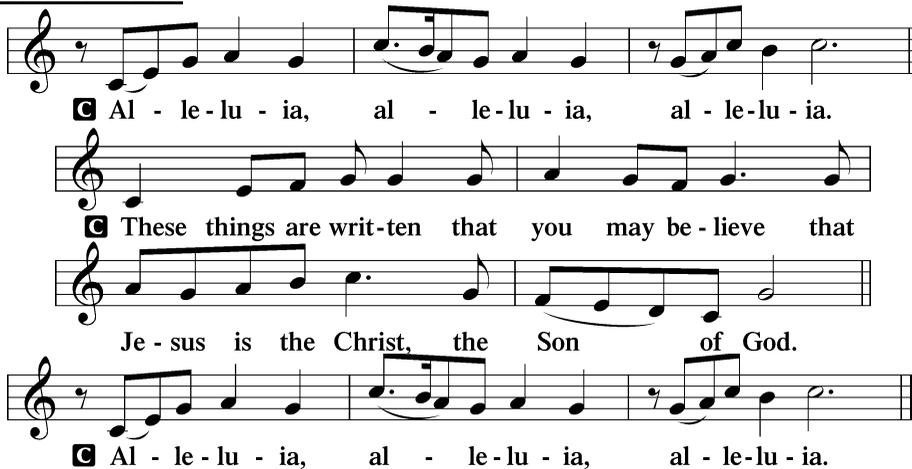
Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Mark 1:1-8*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way,  
the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his  
paths straight,’”

John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Apostles’ Creed

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day  
 He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the  
 right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge  
 the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of  
 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life †  
 everlasting. Amen.

**Children's Message**

*-Children of all ages are welcome to approach the altar at this point-*

**Sermon Hymn**

"Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring"

LSB 353



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from  
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are  
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of  
 4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,  
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer  
 sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,  
 hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

**Sermon**

"Don't Skip This"

*Vicar Adam Hiles, Pastoral Student*

## Advent Offertory

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

LSB 384

2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,  
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -  
deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face  
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

## Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

To continue the work of the Lord at St. Paul- You may joyfully give at  
[www.stpaulroyaloak.org/online-giving](http://www.stpaulroyaloak.org/online-giving),  
or mail to 202 E. Fifth St, Royal Oak, MI 48067



## Prayer of the Church

*The 8:15am service will continue with the Lord's Prayer and Benediction*

### † THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION †

#### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also 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.**

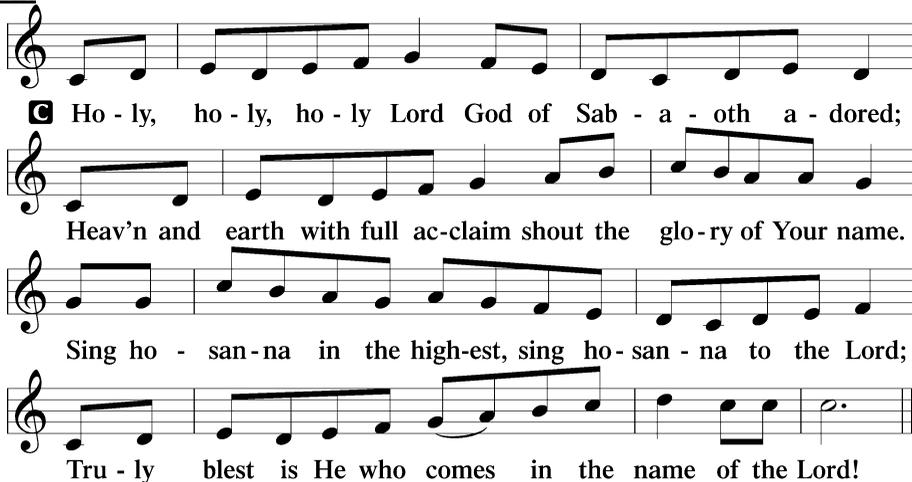
208

## Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 208*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Lord's Prayer

*Mt. 6:9-11*

**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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

*Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Co 11:23-25*

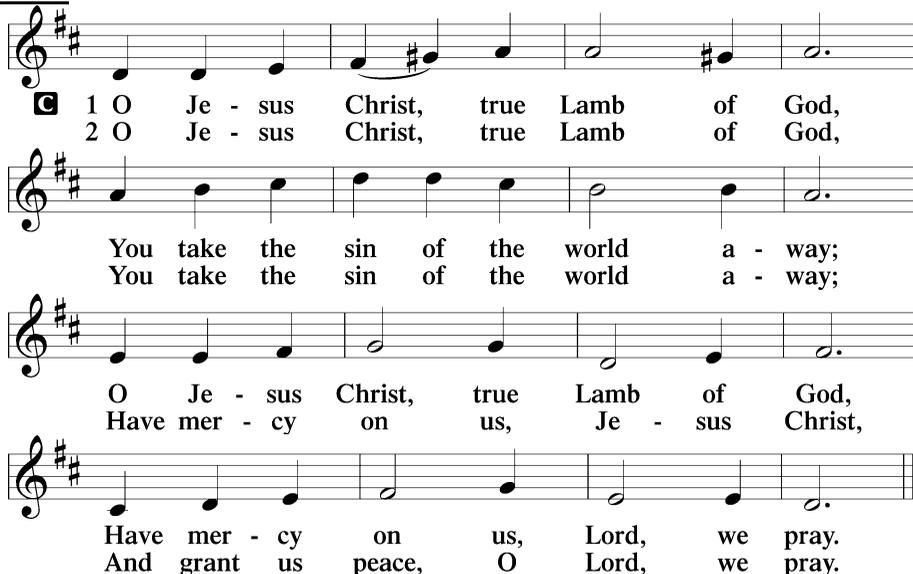
## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

## Agnus Dei

LSB 210



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution Hymn

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

LSB 623



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may  
2 Give us, who share this won - drous food, Your bod - y  
3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the  
4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing us  
5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us  
feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of  
bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of  
gift of love re - told; All that You are we  
in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -  
stead - fast till that day When each will be Your  
bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.  
sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.  
here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.  
til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.  
wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



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

### Benediction

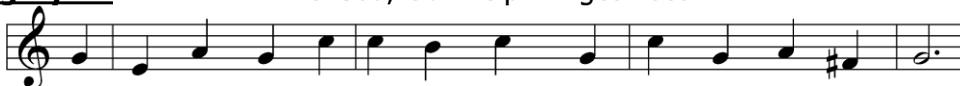
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn

## "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

LSB 733



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

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## *St. Paul Lutheran Church*

*Midweek Advent Services:* 12/06, 12/13, 12/20 @ 7pm

*Christmas Eve Morning Service:* 12/24 @ 9:30am

*Christmas Eve Services:* 12/24 @ 5pm and 11pm

*Christmas Morning Service:* 12/25 @ 10am

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### Serving us in Worship

Preacher Vicar Adam Hiles  
Liturgist Pastor Jakob Andrzejewski  
Music Gregory Paul  
Choir Chancel  
Altar Guild Mike Hammond, Gayle Carpenter  
Readers 815-Tim Hillenbrand  
1100-Ginny Brown  
Elders 815-Kevin Calhoun  
1100-Mike Rasmussen

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