

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 Christ Lutheran Church

Experiencing Christ's Love

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Welcome and Announcements

Please Stand

Invocation

P: We gather, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Call to Confession

P: Advent is a season of preparation and waiting. As we prepare for Christ's advent, we acknowledge our sin which stands in the way of our relationship with God and in living the fullness of life God promises us. Let us be truthful with God and give God the gift of our honest and humble confession.

Prayer of Confession

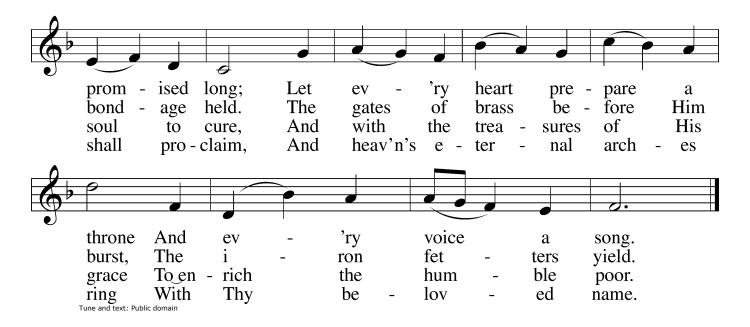
P: Let us pray,

C: Holy God, forgive us. In this season of anticipation, the voices of advertisers and culture compete for our attention, often drowning out your voice. We busy ourselves with tasks we think we're supposed to do and too often neglect those things you have truly called us to do. We lack the loving spirit you would have us share with others. Renew our spirits, Lord. Fill our hearts with joy so others see in us the grace and mercy you have given to us through your Son. Open our eyes and ears to those around us and prepare our hearts to receive the most precious gift of all. Walk with us always in your grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Pardon

P: Friends, know and believe, that as we wait for the birth of the baby Jesus — and the return of our Savior — we are already forgiven. God loves us and has mercy on us! Thanks be to God! Amen.





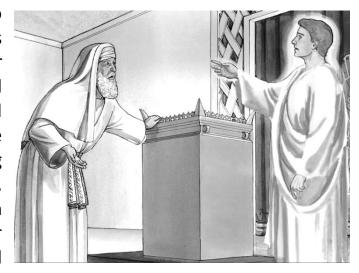
Prayer of the Day

Reading - Luke 1:5-25

In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear

fell upon him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and



power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

A: This is the word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

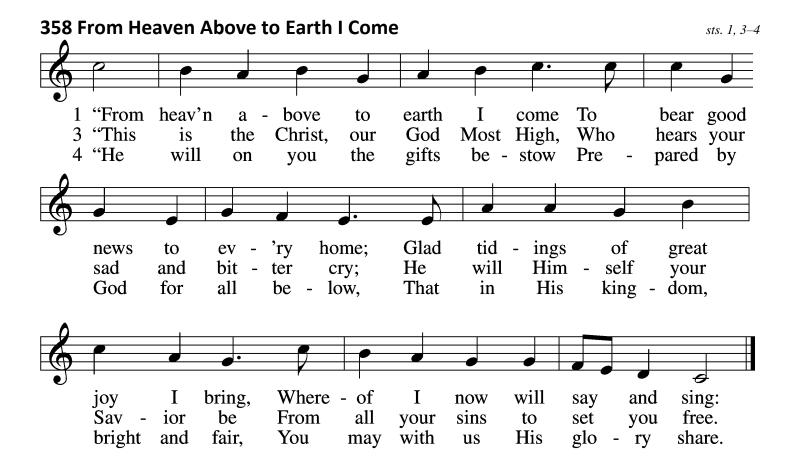
Apostles' Creed

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 there 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.

HOMILY: "OUT OF SILENCE, A PROMISE"



Prayer of the Congregation

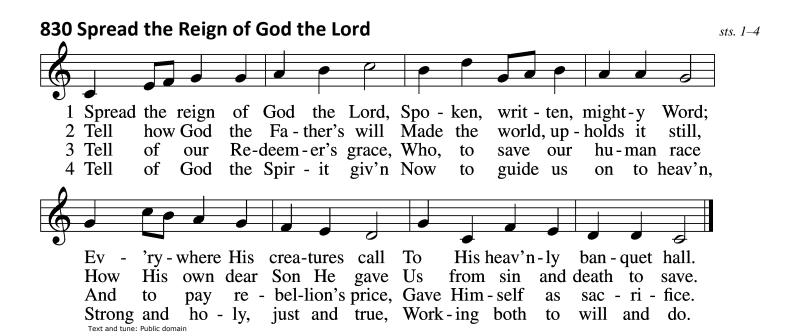
- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction



The Dismissal

- **P** Go in Peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!

Acknowledgments

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