



**WELCOME TO  
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

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Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
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[www.stjohnsws.com](http://www.stjohnsws.com)

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**December 4, 2016 – 10:45 a.m.**  
*Divine Service Setting One*

**St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven  
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.**

“Say you’re sorry!” Such words are often said by a parent to a child when a wrong has occurred, usually intended to be a lesson for the child in teaching that actions have consequences. As we hear the Word of God today from Matthew 3, we also come to realize that our actions have consequences. Yet it is not just actions, but also thoughts and inactions, and the consequences of our sinful nature. The Lord doesn’t tell us to just, “Say you’re sorry!” Through His Word and through His servants like John the Baptist, He calls us to repent—to not just speak an apology, but to turn away from sin and turn to Him. In this Advent season of preparation to receive our Savior born for us, we also prepare like the people of John the Baptist’s time through this ongoing and continuing action of repentance. Moved to repentance by faith, we are then able to live as His people, bear fruit in His name, and continue to be united as one and “together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 15:6).

### † Prayer Before Worship †

Lord of life and light, as Your Word and call to repentance was spoken by John the Baptist, so speak to us now through that same Word to prepare the way and make straight the paths to receive and welcome Your only-begotten Son that we may have life and bear fruit in Your name; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Prelude**    **“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”**

Johannes Brahms

### **Welcome & Sharing of the Peace**

*(Please Stand)*

### **Processional Hymn #344 “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”**

### **Confession and Absolution**

I

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

**C:**    **Amen.**

**P:**    If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C:**    **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.**

**Introit** *Ps. 105:4-8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b*

P: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**C: Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually!**

P: Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,

**C: O offspring of Abraham, His servant, children of Jacob, His chosen ones!**

P: He is the Lord our God; His judgments are in all the earth.

**C: He remembers His covenant forever, the word that He commanded, for a thousand generations.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

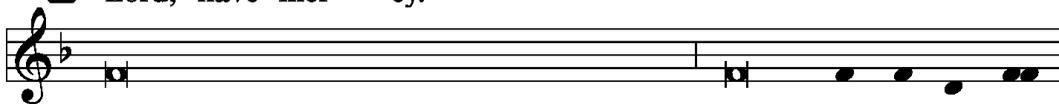
# Kyrie



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



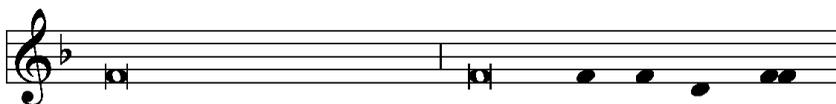
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



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



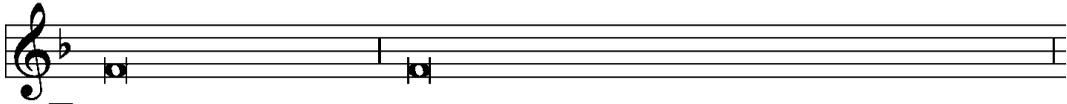
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



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



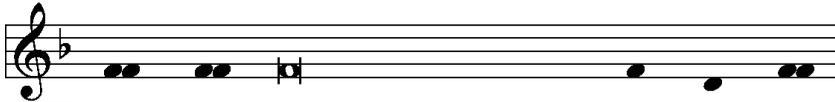
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**G** A - men.

## Hymn of Praise is Omitted During Advent

### 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.**

*(Be Seated)*

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

*(From the stump of Jesse, the Savior will bring peace and righteousness for all.)*

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.

<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

<sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him  
shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual**

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

**All: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you, righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

**Epistle Lesson**

**Romans 15:4-13**

*(Paul encourages unity and hope through Christ.)*

<sup>4</sup>For 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.

<sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>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, <sup>9</sup>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.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

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

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

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

<sup>13</sup>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.

**L: This is the Word of the Lord.**

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Please 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, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

**Matthew 3:1-12**

*(John the Baptist prepares the way of the Lord by preaching a Baptism of repentance.)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”

<sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

<sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

<sup>11</sup>“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

## **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 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.**

*(Be Seated)*

## **Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day #347 "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"**

**Sermon**

Pastor Charles Baldwin

*(Please Stand)*

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P:** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C:** **comfort us in our need and hear our prayer.**

*(Be Seated)*

## **Offering**

**Offertory Anthem “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”**

André Thomas

*(Please Stand)*

**Offertory Hymn #781 “We Give Thee But Thine Own,” v. 1**

## **Closing Collect**

### **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**

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.



## **Recessional Hymn #359 – “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”**

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **Postlude “Savior of the Nations, Come”**

Paul Siefert

**Thank you** to Pastor Charles Baldwin for leading our worship today.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Keith & Clara McKenzie.

**Today’s Ushers:** Bob Hoisington, Holly Wilson, Ryan Davidson, Stephanie Kiel

**Lector:** Mark Meier

**Altar Guild for December:** Tina Kottowski, Anita Hoisington, Jackie Downey, Claudia Essbach

**Lock-ups for December:** Don Henderson, Glenn Rullman, Brad Honeycutt

**Nursery** is available in the Preschool Room 106 during the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service for children ages 3 and under.

**Pew Pads:** Please remember to sign the pew pads. Thank you.

**Crisis Control Items for December:** Flour, sugar and baking ingredients



***Our Sunday Worship*** - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
*Holy Communion is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Sundays,  
at 10:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays, and at both services  
if there is a fifth Sunday in the month.  
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:45 a.m.*

***A Great Place to Grow in Christ***  
*As a part of our outreach ministry, we have a  
Preschool/Pre-K program and Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.  
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

The Sermons are available through the YouTube link at the church's web site. If you miss a Sunday, want to hear the sermon again, or want someone else to hear it, just go to [www.stjohnsws.com](http://www.stjohnsws.com) and click on the YouTube link at the bottom of the home page.