



First Sunday *of* Advent

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

2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
336-725-1651

www.stjohnsWS.com

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017 – 10:45 a.m.
Worship with Holy Communion

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

“God’s Preparation For Christmas”

(Restrooms: Exit the left-side door on the pulpit side. Go straight thru the Fellowship Hall and the two doors leading to our school building. Restrooms are on your right in the school lobby)

Prelude “An Advent Meditation”

David Lasky

Welcome & Sharing of the Peace We take a moment to greet one another, as brothers and sisters in Christ (often with the words “God’s peace be with you”). We enjoy this part of our worship; however, you are free to participate, or not, in any manner with which you are comfortable. *(Please Remain Standing)*

If at any point you need to or prefer to sit, please feel free to do so

(Please Rise)

Processional Hymn: #349 “Hark the Glad Sound”

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession & Forgiveness

L I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

Amen.

C The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

L The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

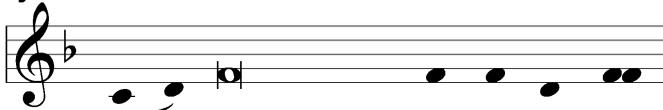
P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Almighty God, by gift of Your Son our Savior Jesus, You have opened to us the door of everlasting life. Guide us to walk in the footsteps of our ancestors in the faith, that we would always trust that we are saved by grace through faith and faithfully proclaim and demonstrate this good news to everyone; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: **Amen.**

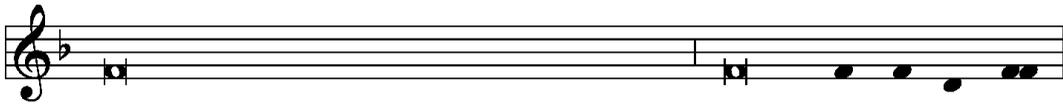
Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



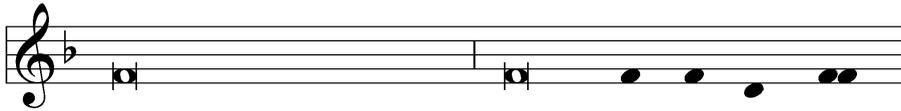
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



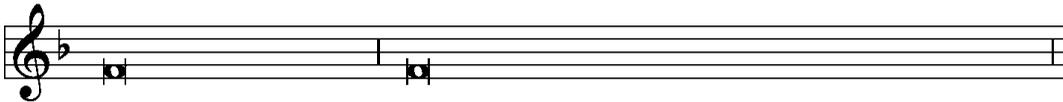
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



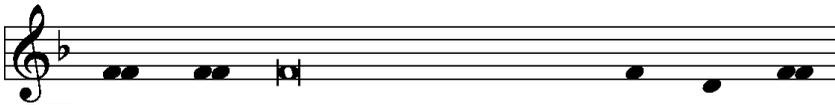
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Micah 5:2 and 2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-13

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”

⁴ But it happened that night that the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying, ⁵ “Go and tell My servant David,

(Nathan speaks to David)

¹² “When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish His kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of His kingdom forever.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Second Lesson Galatians 4:4-7

⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born ^[a] of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of ^[b] God through Christ.

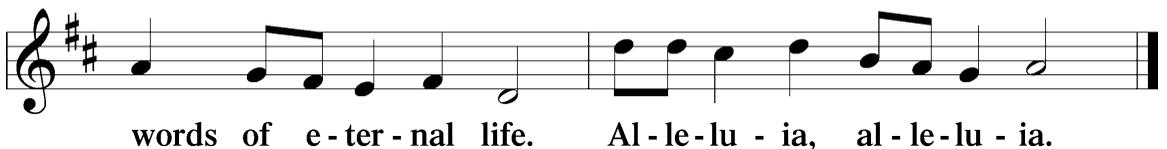
L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse



C 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.

(Please Stand)

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:1-6, Luke 3:31-32a; 37-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew and St. Luke, the 1st and 3rd chapters.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the **Son of David**, the Son of Abraham:
² Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.
³ Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram.
⁴ Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon.
⁵ Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse,
⁶ and Jesse begot David the king.

David the king begot Solomon by her *who had been the wife*^[a] of Uriah.

³¹ *the son of Melea, the son of Menan, the son of Mattathah, the son of Nathan, **the son of David,***
³² *the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the son of Nahshon,*

³⁷ *the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the son of Cainan,*
³⁸ *the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven**

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T of the world to come. Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: #331 "The Advent of Our King"

Sermon: "God's Preparation For Christmas"

Offer Unto the Lord! The Bible gives these guidelines on our financial giving:

- 1) *"First Fruits": i.e. Set aside a portion for God FIRST. He gets the best, not the leftovers.*
- 2) *"Portion/Percentage giving": Give to God a percentage of our gross income; the Old Testament "tithes" was 10%; certainly "this side" of the cross we should be just as motivated, or more so, than the Old Testament believers!*
- 3) *"God's Blessings": God promises if we are faithful in our giving, He will pour out blessing/abundance to us overflowing!*

Offering

Please take this time to sign the Pew Pads in your row and pass them down. We thank God for our visitors and guests. Please share your e-mail with us so that you can receive a weekly note of activities/announcements. Thank you for worshiping with us!

(Please Stand)

Offertory Hymn #805 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER.

St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.)

Children are invited forward to receive a blessing.

Please take a moment to sign the attendance pad in your pew.

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayer

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.**

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

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

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei



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.

(Be Seated)

Distribution Hymns: #618 "I come, O Savior, to Thy Table"
#332 "Savior of the Nations, Come"

(Please Stand)

Post-Communion Collect

P: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

Recessional Hymn #818 "In Thee is Gladness"

Postlude "Hark, the Glad Sound"

arr. Paul Manz

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of our grandchildren: Aidan, Addison, and Alec Leahy by Bob & Martha Burke.

Today's Ushers: Holly Wilson, Ryan Davidson, and Stephanie Kiel

Worship Assistant: Early Service – Rich Essbach, Tom Baldwin; Late Service – Steve Anderson, Rob Schwabe

Lector: Early Service – Rachel Orsborn, Late Service – Stephanie Guelzow

Altar Guild for December: Tina Kottlowski, Claudia Essbach, Jackie Downey, and Mary Rochester

Lock-ups for December: John Williams and Don Adamick

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

Crisis Control Item for December: Sugar/Flour/Baking Items. The collection basket is in the Narthex.

The Sermons are available on-line at <http://stjohnsws.com/weekly-sermons-2/>

St. John's Prayer and Care Notes are distributed each Saturday. If you would like to receive this document and be listed on the email distribution, please send a request to:

- Dale Mierisch at wb9szl@triad.rr.com and include "St John's Prayer and Care Notes Subscription" in the subject line of your email.
- You may also send your prayer requests to Dale at this address.

Advent and Christmas Services

Wednesday Advent Worship at 7:00pm

- December 6th, 13th, and 20th – dinner at 5:30pm

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

- Regular Morning Service at 8:30am and 10:45am with Sunday School at 9:45am
- "Christmas Eve Worship" – at 5:00pm and 7:00pm (no communion)

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31

- Regular Morning Service at 8:30am and 10:45am with Sunday School at 9:45am
- "New Year's Eve Worship" with Holy Communion at 7:00pm



Our Sunday Worship - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:30 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 8th grade.
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

Pastor Thomas Clocker, 301-732-9203, revclocker@gmail.com

Mark Edmiston, Principal

Tom Baldwin, Director of Admissions and Community Relations

Sonia Davidson, Director of Preschool

Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship

Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship

Church Office Hours Monday through Thursday,
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.