



Third Sunday in Advent

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
555 US HIGHWAY 1—NORTH PALM BEACH, FL 33408

December 14, 2025

We warmly welcome all our guests and are so blessed to have you join us for worship this morning!

Join us the first Sunday of each month for our Congregational Breakfast at 10:00 AM in the Michel Building (to your right as you leave the Sanctuary).

Holy Communion

In this Sacrament, Jesus gives us Himself, His true Body and Blood as we receive the bread and wine. Jesus instituted this when he celebrated Passover with his disciples, and assures us that each time we receive it, we again remember his death and receive the full benefits of His grace and all that he offers. In keeping with the Scripture and the teachings of the Lutheran church, we ask each person to consider these questions:

- *Do I acknowledge the fact that I am indeed a sinner and that I am sorry for my sins?
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from all sin?
- *Am I trusting in Jesus' promise that I receive full forgiveness and strength through this Sacrament?
- *Do I believe and agree that the body and blood of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, are truly present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- *With the Lord's help, will I seek to amend my sinful life and live in conformity with His holy will?

If you answer yes to all these questions and are baptized, you are welcome to come and receive all that Jesus offers in Holy Communion. May the Lord bless your personal reception as well as your daily living under His power and blessing.

We offer assistance for the **hearing impaired**. Just speak to one of our ushers, who will be able to help you. Please return the hearing device to an usher as you exit.

We have a **Nursery** for infants through age 3 that is available during our services for you to use, we have an experienced babysitter there to care for your children. The nursery is through the hall on the right side of the sanctuary (facing the altar).

Prelude

“He Comes to Us”

Gilbert Martin

(When the Organ sounds, please quiet yourself in preparation of today’s service)

DIVINE SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT, SETTING TWO

Confession and Absolution

Carol-sing

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

LSB 167

- 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.**

Confession of Sins

167

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in the Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. I confess that as a sinner, I am spiritually blind and dead, separated from God. Lord, again grant to me the gift of faith that I may receive forgiveness of my sin now and receive with joy the new life You give, for the sake of Jesus Christ, my risen Lord. Amen**

Absolution

LSB 167

- 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring



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.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
 Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt
 Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Kyrie

LSB 168

- A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
 C **Lord, have mercy.**
 A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
 C **Lord, have mercy.**
 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 mercy.**

- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

- A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
C **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:1–10

- ¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.
³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.

It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:1-4,9-10

¹Praise | the LORD!*

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;***

I will sing praises to my God while I have my | being.

³Put not your trust in | princes,*

in a son of man, in whom there is no sal- | vation.

⁴**When his breath departs he returns | to the earth;***
on that very day his plans | perish.

⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners;

he upholds the widow and the | fatherless,*

but the way of the wicked he brings to | ruin.

¹⁰The LORD will reign for- | ever,*
your God, O Zion, to all generations. | Praise the LORD!
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.

Epistle

James 5:7–11

⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.”

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the

days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

349 Hark the Glad Sound

1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
 soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
 shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es

throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
 burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
 grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51
 Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

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 T everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering (*Ushers collect offering*)

**“And the Glory of the Lord (Messiah)”
Choir**

G.F. Handel

956 Create in Me (*Ushers bring forward offering*)

1 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12
Text: Public domain

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177

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.**

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 177

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- 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

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 180

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

Agnus Dei *(Congregation remains standing)*

LSB 180

- C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution *(Congregation is seated)*

Brooklynn Finn, Violinist
Bell Ensemble

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

- C **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.**
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

- A Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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

LSB 183

- 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 T give you peace.
C **Amen.**

366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un - furled,
 3 All you, be - neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent low,
 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
 And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.
 Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:
 When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



“Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav’n’s all - gra - cious king.”
 A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov - ’ring wing,
 Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing,
 His word of peace shall to the earth God’s an - cient prom - ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.
 And ev - er o’er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing.
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt.
 Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900
 Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

- (A) Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- (C) Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

Dale Wood