

HYMN #517 | “IF GOD HIMSELF BE FOR ME”

“Paul Gerhardt wrote 134 hymns in the course of his life.... It is clear that three pervasive themes dominate Gerhardt’s output: 1) the objective truth of the Christian doctrine of salvation by grace, 2) a deep understanding of and sympathy for the human condition, and 3) a longing for heaven. These themes are viewed from the perspective of the Christian living under the benign rule of a loving God...”¹

To say that the life of pastor and hymn-writer Paul Gerhardt was difficult would be an understatement. Most of it was spent during the horrors of the Thirty Years War. He lived through the deaths of several of his children and his wife. When he took up his final position as pastor in Lübben, Germany, his parish-ioners underappreciated him and made his life even more difficult. Nevertheless, Gerhardt constantly looked through his personal crosses to the cross of Christ, where he saw that his life was secured.

In this battle-hymn, Gerhardt knows that the battle is bleak, and that he, one of its soldiers, may not survive it. But he also knows that he will not truly be defeated by the forces that rise against him—forces of the Devil, the wicked world, and his own sinful flesh. We all may take comfort that even in the darkest of times, the Gospel shines bright to give us life and salvation in our Savior Jesus Christ. Consider the lesson of this pastor’s life, who, suffering things inconceivable to many of us, could still sing, “My merry heart is springing, and knows not how to pine” (v. 15)!

¹Carlos R. Messerli, “Paul Gerhardt: Poet and Hymnwriter,” *Lutheran Synod Quarterly*, 48.1 (March 2008), 70-96, (Mankato, MN: Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary), 78.

Contact Information:

320 West College St | Albert Lea, MN
Office Phone: (507) 373-6097
www.oursaviorsels.com
Rev. Michael G. Lilienthal, *Pastor*
Cell: (715) 295-4020
mlilienthal@blc.edu
Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9:00-3:00
Thu 9:00-12:00



Having trouble hearing our service? Ask our ushers for one of our personal hearing devices.



Parking for our services is available in our adjacent lot, on both sides of the street, and in our gravel lot across the street.



Restrooms are located near the back steps in the church basement. The restroom on the left contains a changing table.



Our lift stops at sanctuary, street, and basement levels. Ask one of our ushers if you need help operating our lift.

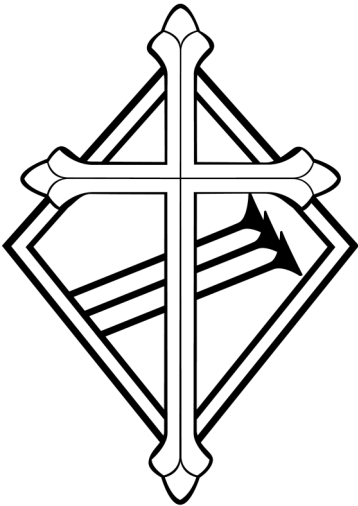
Welcome to our Honored Guests!

We hope you are nourished by our service today and we invite you to join us again to hear of the peace we have in Jesus’ name and to share in our Christian fellowship.

Please sign our guest registry so we have a record of your visit, and let us know if you would like to speak with our pastor to learn more about our congregation or the Bible’s teachings.

 /oursaviorsalbertlea

 /oursaviorsels_al



THE DIVINE SERVICE

Rite Two

Service of the Word & Sacrament

December 16, 2018 | 9:00 a.m.



OUR SAVIOR’S is a member of the *Evangelical Lutheran Synod* (ELS), a national church body headquartered in Mankato, MN. As a member of the ELS, we confess that we are saved by *Grace Alone* (Eph. 2:8) through *Faith Alone* (Acts 16:31) revealed in *Scripture Alone* (John 5:24). Though we are totally sinful from birth, Jesus Christ paid for our sins on the cross and gives us eternal life in heaven. We subscribe to the Lutheran Confessions (Book of Concord, 1580) because they are a faithful and accurate summary of the Bible’s teachings.

The ELS has been in fellowship with the *Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod* (WELS) since 1872.



Today in the Christian Church Year: **Advent 3**

Spiritual Focus: *Forerunners of Christ*

Preacher: Rev. Michael
Lilienthal

Accompanist: Carol Hagen

AS YOU PREPARE YOURSELF FOR WORSHIP in the quiet moments before we receive the service of our almighty and merciful God, turn to p. 40 in the front part of the *Hymnary*, and pray quietly to yourself or as a family the **PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP** and **IN REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**, and **BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION**. You may also turn to p. 167 and pray the **MORNING PRAYER** and the prayer for **SUNDAY MORNING**.

Whenever you see this symbol: ✠ you may make the sign of the cross over yourself. By this simple act, remember your Baptism, and how you were covered in the image of Christ, because your sins were laid on his cross, so that you may have his holiness and life.



Advent is a season of preparation, and is therefore a penitential season, or a season of repentance. A Litany, or prayer list, is a traditional portion of penitential worship, guiding our eyes constantly to the God who provides us all we need. We come before God with all these petitions and know that he promises to hear us, and he will give us his blessings through the Word and Sacraments in the Divine Service.

I. The Service of Preparation

As the pastor approaches the altar, please rise for prayer.

1. The Advent Litany

- P:** Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
- P:** O God the Father, who so loved the world that You gave Your only-begotten Son to save us;
- C:** **Have mercy upon us.**
- P:** O God the Son, who came in the likeness of sinful flesh to suffer for us, and will come again to be our Judge;
- C:** **Have mercy upon us.**
- P:** O God the Holy Spirit, who mercifully visits the souls of Your elect, to abide with us forever;
- C:** **Have mercy upon us.**
- P:** Holy Trinity, Blessed forevermore,
- C:** **Be favorable to us, and bless us.**
- P:** From the snares of the world, the flesh, and the devil;
- C:** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P:** From impenitence, unbelief, and neglect of Your holy commandments;
- C:** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P:** From all carelessness, and forgetfulness of You;
- C:** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P:** From Your wrath, whether in this world or in the world to come;
- C:** **Good Lord, deliver us.**



Next week is the 4th Sunday of Advent. The Lord has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers. Mary knew the promises of the Lord, and they created a strong faith within her. With such faith she points all believers to the coming Savior as the one who will fulfill everything promised in the sacred Scriptures. Let us then go to Bethlehem to see the marvelous things the Lord has done, the righteousness he has revealed to the nations.

Take a look at pp. 202-203 in the *Hymnary*, and look at the readings for next week after "Advent 4."

HOME DEVOTION CORNER:

Suggested Readings for Home Devotion:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Heb. 10:35-39 Is. 2:1-5	Luke 21:5-24 Is. 24:21-25:5	Luke 12:35-59 Is. 25:6-10	James 5:7-11 Is. 26:1-21	Luke 1:1-25 Is. 51:1-16	Luke 1:26-38 Is. 52:1-12

Next Week’s Hymns

families, especially children, can benefit from practicing these hymns at home during devotions

#101 “The King Shall Come”	#109 “Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”	#141 “Once He Came in Blessing
------------------------------	--	----------------------------------

Prayers: Follow the daily prayers in the Hymnary, pp. 167-171.

You may also pray Collects #5-8 on pp. 147 & 148 throughout the week.

Please offer prayers for one another throughout your week, and for our homebound and ill. If you have specific prayer requests, please submit them to Pastor Lilienthal by Wednesday so that they may be published in the week’s bulletin.

P: From a slumbering conscience, and from an unprepared death;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: By the compassion and long-suffering of God the Father;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: By Your first Coming and humiliation;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: By Your Passion, and most precious Death;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: By Your intercession for us before the Father;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: By Your second Coming in Your glorious majesty;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: By the mercies and comforts of God the Holy Spirit;
C: **Good Lord, deliver us.**
P: In our days of sorrow, weakness, and tribulation,
C: **Console and defend us, O Lord.**
P: In our last sickness, and in the hour of death,
C: **Console and defend us, O Lord.**
P: In Your Judgment, when the last sentence is pronounced,
C: **Deliver us, O holy and merciful Savior.**
P: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.
That You would vouchsafe to us true repentance and a good conscience;
C: **We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.**
P: That You would enable us to bear all our trials patiently, and to glorify You in our daily life;
C: **We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.**
P: That You would defend and govern Your holy church, especially in this land;
C: **We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.**
P: That You would vouchsafe to all our brethren, especially those dearest to us, unity, peace, and true concord;
C: **We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.**
P: That You would vouchsafe to the afflicted and suffering in soul or body Your merciful aid and deliverance;
C: **We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.**
P: That You would continually exalt our minds to heavenly desires;
C: **We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.**
P: That we may be more and more perfected in the fruits of the Spirit, and

Advent means “coming.” We look back to the time when Jesus came in humility as a baby conceived in the womb of the Blessed Virgin. We continue to look to the present when he comes to us in Word and Sacrament. We look forward to the time he will come in glory at the Last Day.



better conformed to Your most holy will;
C: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.
P: That being uncertain of the hour of our death, we may study to be watchful, and prepared to give an account of our stewardship;
C: We beseech You to hear us, good Lord.
P: O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;
C: Hear us, O Lord.
P: O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;
C: Spare us, O Lord.
P: O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;
C: Have mercy upon us.
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 pow’r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 6:9-13

“Introit” is Latin for “enter.” Normally taken from portions of the Psalms, this little song changes each Sunday, and sets the tone for the worship through the music and themes.

Philippians 4:4-6

Psalms 85:1

2. The Introit



P: Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I `will say, rejoice!/
Let your gentleness be known to all men. The `Lord is at hand.
Be anxious `for *nothing*,/ but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests `be known to God.
Lord, You have been favorable `to *Your* land;/ You have brought back the captivity `of *Jacob*.
**C: Glory be to the Father `and to the Son/ and to `the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the be`ginning, is now,/ and ever shall be, forever`more. Amen.**

Do you play an instrument? Whatever that instrument may be (piano, guitar, violin, trumpet, etc.), would you be willing to play it, accompanying the Services of Our Savior’s? We may have need in the future of additional accompanists for liturgy and/or hymns. If you would be willing, please speak with Pastor Lilienthal or Arline Walker.

Sunday Morning Bible Study we are studying the Heritage Hymns of the ELS. 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of our synod’s reorganization. We’re looking back over the hymns that have been significant for our synod throughout the years, and are still true and powerful today.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study we are reading and studying the Gospel according to St. Luke. The only Gentile author of the Bible, writing to a Gentile audience, shows us how Jesus Christ fulfills the entire Old Testament and prepares us to receive the blessings of eternal life with him.



	Greeters:	Fellowship Host:
<i>This Week:</i>	The Boettchers	The Boettchers
<i>Next Week:</i>		

Last Week:

Attendance:	Offerings Received	Weekly Need:
71	\$2889.00	\$2409.33

Today	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Next Sun.
Divine Service ~9:00 a.m.			Bible Study ~ 10:00 a.m.	Coffee with Pastor ~ 10:00 a.m.			Divine Service ~9:00 a.m.
Sunday School ~ 10:15 a.m.			Advent Matins ~11:00 p.m.				Sunday School ~ 10:15 a.m.
Bible Study ~ 10:30 a.m.			Advent "Darkness- to-Light" Service ~ 7:00 p.m.				Bible Study ~ 10:30 a.m. Caroling ~3:30 p.m.

Midweek Advent Services continue. There are opportunities available to attend in the morning or later in the evening, depending on what your schedule allows. This week, our 7:00 p.m. service is a special *"Darkness-to-Light"* service, emphasizing hymns of light in this Advent season.

We will go a-caroling! Sunday, December 23rd, at 3:30 p.m. we will gather at Our Savior's to go out and sing Christmas carols to our shut-in members. After singing, we will return to church for pizza. Come along, even if you don't think you have a great singing voice, because these members love hearing us share the love of our Lord in hymns. (And the Vikings game should be done by the time we start!)

Monday, December 24 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Vespers

Tuesday, December 25 9:00 a.m. Christmas Dawn Service
3:00 p.m. Christmas Day Service

Sunday, December 30 9:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Program

The Catechism Class has begun participating as acolytes, the ancient practice for boys in the congregation to assist the pastor in the worship service, especially in lighting the candles and carrying various objects. In this way, the students get practical experience in the worship service, in learning what the liturgy and hymns are all for, and help to lead the congregation in the reverent atmosphere of this foretaste of heaven. Today's acolyte is Caleb Songstad.

C: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e -

le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

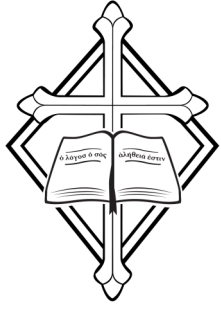
C: And with your spir - it.

O Lord Jesus Christ, for whose sudden coming to Judgment Your Church looks and waits, come now to us in Your quickening love, and plant Your holy fear and love within our hearts. Establish us in Your truth and righteousness, endue us with such boldness to confess You before men, that You may at the Last Day confess us before Your Father and all the elect and angels in heaven; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

We pray in this song, the prayer of the blind men, the lepers, and Israel in bondage, asking God for healing, forgiveness, and salvation, recognizing our lowliness and his greatness and ability to help.

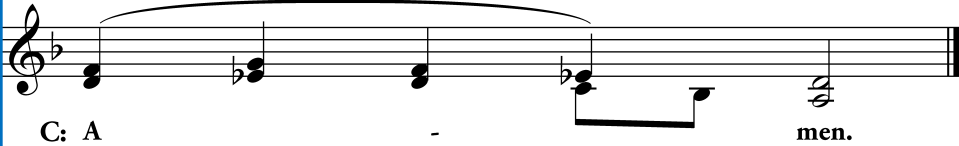
The Collect is a brief prayer that "collects" in one short petition all that we are asking God to do for us, based on the specific section of his Word which is preached on that day.



The Old Testament lesson points us to the coming Savior.

The people in Malachi's day ask, "Where is the God of justice?" The Lord makes it very clear that the Day of Judgment is coming. He wants all people prepared for that day. That's why he sent the Messenger of the new covenant, Jesus Christ, to suffer and die for the sins of the world. He will come again to save those who wait for him.

P: Lord, we beseech You, give ear to our prayers, and enlighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



II. The Service of The Word

10. The Lesson

Malachi 3:1-6

Look! I am sending my messenger! He will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord, whom you are seeking, will come to his temple! The Messenger of the Covenant, in whom you delight, will surely come, says the LORD of Armies.

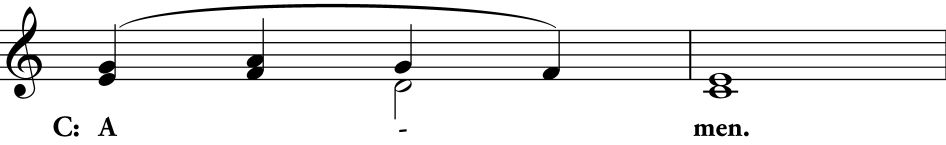
²But who can endure the day when he comes? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire, like launderers' bleach! ³He will be seated like a refiner and a purifier of silver. He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and like silver. They will belong to the LORD and bring him an offering in righteousness.

⁴Judah and Jerusalem's offerings will be pleasing to the LORD as they were in the days of old, in years long ago.

⁵I will approach you to judge you. I will be quick to give testimony against those who practice occult arts, those who commit adultery, those who swear false oaths, those who cheat workers out of their wages, those who wrong a widow and a fatherless child, those who turn away a resident alien—all those who do not fear me, says the LORD of Armies.

⁶Certainly I, the LORD, do not change. That is why you, sons of Jacob, have not come to an end.

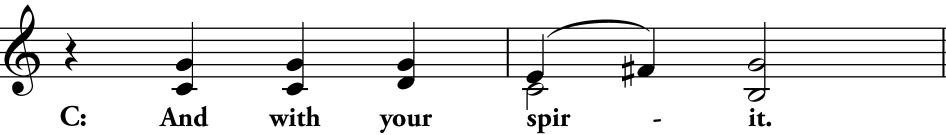
P: Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



30. A Hymn of Thanks: #107 | "When All the World Was Cursed"

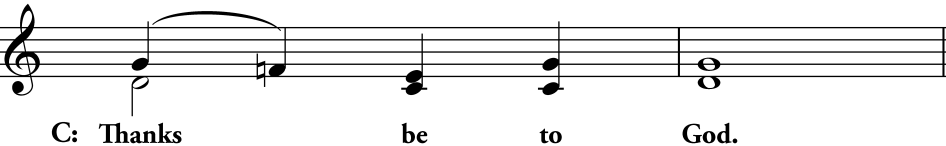
31. The Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.



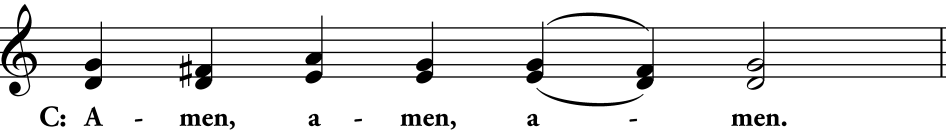
32. The Benedicamus ~ Let us bless

P: Let us bless the Lord..



33. The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give ✠ you peace.



34. A Doxology or Hymn: #517:1, 4, 11, 12 | "If God Himself Be for Me"



Note how we pray that the Sacrament we have just received would strengthen not only our faith but also our Christian love for each other.

We are again reminded of the love between pastor and congregation, as well as our love to God. 2 Timothy 4:22—"The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you. Amen."

Psalms 41:13—"Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from eternity to eternity. Amen and Amen."

The pastor sings the blessing that Aaron was instructed to sing over the people of Israel, (Num. 6:24-26) blessing them with the name of the Triune God. You have received the Lord's gifts, so the blessing is the prayer that you may continue strengthened in those gifts to eternity.

AFTER THE DIVINE SERVICE, turn to p. 40 in the front part of the *Hymnary*, and pray quietly to yourself or as a family the prayer **AT THE END OF DIVINE SERVICE**.

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Scripture quotations marked "ESV" are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version®, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

WHEN YOU HAVE RETURNED TO YOUR SEAT, turn to p. 40 in the front part of the *Hymnary*, and pray quietly to yourself or as a family the prayer **AFTER HOLY COMMUNION**.

Upon receiving the first Supper, Jesus' disciples sang a hymn (Matthew 26:30). We continue this practice by singing the wonderful Song of Simeon, which he sang upon receiving the Christ-child in the Temple (Luke 2:29-32). Just as Simeon held the infant Jesus in his arms, we also now have physically held this Savior, having received his true Body and Blood. The Pastor veils the sacred vessels as we depart in peace, looking forward to our final departure from this world in peace, according to the promises God has given us in his Word.

28. *The Nunc Dimittis* ~ Now You Let Depart

C: Lord, now You let Your servant de - part in peace ac -

cord-ing to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your salvation,

which You have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people

a Light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple

Is - - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and to the

Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

29. *The Collect of Thanksgiving*

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: And His mercy en - dures for - ev - er.

1 Chronicles 16:34 (ESV)—“Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!”

11. *The Gradual, Psalm, an Anthem or Hymn: Psalm 85 (Tone 2)*

Odd verses: Pastor | Even verses: Congregation | “Glory be to the Father...”: All

Tone 2

¹Lord, You have been favorable `to Your land;/ You have brought back the captivi`ty of Jacob.

²You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people;/ You have covered all their sin.

³You have taken away all Your wrath;/ You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger.

⁴Restore us, O God of our salvation,/ And cause Your anger toward us to cease.

⁵Will You be angry with us forever?/ Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

⁶Will You not revive us again,/ That Your people may rejoice in You?

⁷Show us Your mercy, Lord,/ And grant us Your salvation.

⁸I will hear what God the Lord will speak,/ For He will speak peace

To His people and to His saints;/ But let them not turn back to folly.

⁹Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,/ That glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰Mercy and truth have met together;/ Righteousness and peace have kissed.

¹¹Truth shall spring out of the earth,/ And righteousness shall look down from heaven.

¹²Yes, the Lord will give what is good;/ And our land will yield its increase.

¹³Righteousness will go before Him,/ And shall make His footsteps our path-way.

Glory be to the Father `and to the Son/ and to `the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the be`ginning, is now,/ And ever shall be, forever`more. Amen.

The Gradual is a “bridge,” a psalm or related hymn that ties the readings for the day together.

Many people, even Christians, suffer from deep fears and insecurities. Rightly heeded, these fears chase us to Jesus. In him, God has destroyed your enemies of sin, death, and hell. He will surely continue to protect you through his means of grace.

12. *The Epistle*

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

This is the way a person should think of us: as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. ²In this connection, moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. ³But it is a trivial matter to me if I am evaluated by you or by a day in a human court. Why, I do not even evaluate myself. ⁴I do not in fact know of anything against myself,

but I am not justified by this; rather, the one who evaluates me is the Lord.

⁵Therefore judge nothing ahead of time, until the Lord comes. He will bring to light whatever is hidden in darkness and also reveal the intentions of hearts. Then there will be praise for each person from God.

The Epistle lesson indicates that the Old Testament is fulfilled in Christ, and we now live in the age of that fulfillment.

People despise God's messengers because the Spirit's power is concealed in lowly, suffering leaders like Paul, and in the lowly means of Word and Sacrament. But God sends us spiritual fathers—pastors—to nurture us, entrusting them with the Law & Gospel for our good.

13. *The Alleluia, Verse, Sequence, an Anthem or Hymn*

C: Alleluia! Remember, O Lord, Your `tender mercies:/ for they have been from of old. `Alleluia!

We stand out of eagerness for the Gospel and reverence for this holiest treasure, acknowledging that our Lord is indeed present in his Gospel. Here we find Jesus revealed as the answer to all our prayers and praises.

People commonly experience disappointment because of false or unfulfilled expectations. We hope God will act in a certain way, but he does not. We then wonder why. To guard against false expectations, focus on Jesus and what he has said and what he has done. He is the fulfillment of all our hopes.

14. The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-10

P: The Holy Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Advent is written in the 11th chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, beginning at the 2nd verse.

C: Glo - ry be to You, O Lord!

²While John was in prison, he heard about the things Christ was doing. He sent two of his disciples ³to ask him, "Are you the Coming One or should we wait for someone else?"

⁴Jesus answered them, "Go, report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the gospel is preached to the poor. ⁶Blessed is the one who does not take offense at me."

⁷As these two were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the crowds about John. "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? No, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹So what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you! And he is much more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

P: This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

24. The Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

25. The Pax Domini ~ The Peace of the Lord

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

C: A - men.

26. The Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God

C: O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world, grant us Your peace A - men.

27. The Distribution: Hymn #103 | "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

#105 | "Rise, Children of the Kingdom"

Matthew 26:26-27
Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

The Pax Domini was a custom in many churches, during which a kiss of peace was shared among the faithful to show their unity in the blessed Communion:

John 20:19—"Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, 'Peace be with you!'"

In the Sacrament, the Lamb of God comes to take away our sin.

John 1:29—"John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'"

Be assured that your sins are forgiven as you eat and drink.

The Sanctus begins with the threefold song that Isaiah heard the angels sing in his vision of heaven (Isaiah 6). Here time and space truly end for a moment and we participate in the joys of the heavenly feast. The second half of the Sanctus is the song of Palm Sunday: "Hosanna!" which means, "Save us, please!" As certain as the Lord came into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday to accomplish salvation, now he comes into our midst to give us the blessings of that salvation in his body and his blood.

1 Corinthians 11:28—"let a person examine himself and after doing so, let him eat of the bread and drink from the cup"

Matthew 6:9-13

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

Heav'n 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,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

22. The Exhortation
23. The Lord's Prayer

All sing:

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.

C: For Thine is the kingdom and the pow'r and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

15. The Nicene Creed

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall 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 of the world to come. Amen.

16. The Chief Hymn: #102 | "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

17. The Sermon

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

"Pastors Are Servants of Christ to Give You Grace"

2 Corinthians 4:13—"Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, 'I believed, and so I spoke,' we also believe, and so we also speak."

In response to the gifts of God in his Word, we give him our thanks in praise, in song, in prayer, and in portions of our material blessings.

The Offertory, from Psalm 51, is the words of David after his fall into sin with Bathsheba, and his recovery into God's kingdom of grace through the work of the prophet Nathan. It received this name because church members would offer up bread and wine to be used in the Holy Communion while this hymn was being sung.

The Prayer of the Church so beautifully addresses all of the major issues which confront us in this life, and gives ample room for petitions on behalf of those in special need in the congregation.

18. A Hymn or the Offertory Verse. Offering.

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Your pres - ence, and take not Your Ho - ly
Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of
Your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with
Your free Spir - it. A - men.

As the offering plates are returned to the altar, please rise for prayer

19. The Prayer of the Church

III. The Service of Holy Communion

20. The Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.

C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

21. The Proper Preface and Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



With this three-part song-and-response, we are joined as the body of Christ, setting the mood for the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

*2 Timothy 4:22
Lamentations 3:41
Psalm 92:1*

The pastor assures the communicants that what they intend and promise to do (sing to their Lord in thanks and praise) is not only the right thing to do, but is also wholesome for body, soul, mind, and spirit (salutary). The Proper Preface ends by showing us how we are united with the saints and angels in unending praise. Here we are closest to our brothers and sisters who have gone before us. They are gathered at the Feast of the Lamb on that side of heaven, and we are gathered at his Table on this side of heaven, all one in the Lord.