

Advent

December 13, 2020

*When the angels had
left them and gone into
heaven, the shepherds
said to one another,
"Let us go now to
Bethlehem and see this
thing that has taken
place, which the Lord
has made known to us."
Luke 2:15*



3rd Sunday in Advent St. Lucia Day December 13, 2020

Order of Service

“Rejoice always,” begins the reading from 1 Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. “All God’s children got a robe,” go the words of a spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes we are happy to wear. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God’s party.

PRELUDE

During this Advent season, we would like to bring the celebration of the season into your homes with our preludes. Please join us and play your bells during our prelude before the worship service begins.

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

P God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder our love of you, that when Christ comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever more. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, whose forgiveness is sure and whose steadfast love endures forever.

C Amen.

P Together let us honestly and humbly confess that we have not lived as God desires.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Loving and forgiving God,


C we confess that we are held captive by sin. In spite of our best efforts, we have gone astray. We have not welcomed the stranger; we have not loved our neighbor; we have not been Christ to one another. Restore us, O God. Wake us up and turn us from our sin. Renew us each day in the light of Christ. Amen.

P People of God, hear this glad news: by God’s endless grace your sins are forgiven, and you are free—free from all that holds you back and free to live in the peaceable realm of God. May you be strengthened in God’s love, ☩ comforted by Christ’s peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

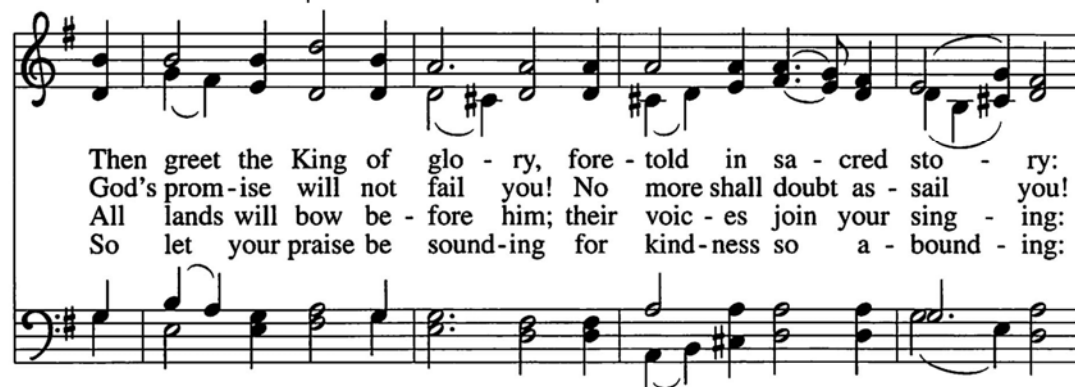
C Amen.



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Refrain
Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Advent Three:

P We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent stands for the coming of our Lord. The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. (*Isaiah 35:1*)

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

The musical score for the Kyrie is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of vocal and piano accompaniment. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are as follows:

Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!

Hail in the time ap - point - ed his reign on earth be - gun!

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,

to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.

HYMN OF PRAISE

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines, ending with a double bar line. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm.

Lift up your heads, you might - y gates, be - hold, the
Fling wide the por - tals of your heart, make it a
So, come, my Sov - 'reign, en - ter in, let new and

King of Glo - ry waits; the King of Kings is
tem - ple set a - part from earth - ly use for
no - bler life be - gin, the Ho - ly Spir - it

draw - ing near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
guide us on, un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Loving God, for the salvation of all you gave Jesus Christ as light to the world in darkness: Illumine us, with the example of our dear Lucy, with the light of Christ, that by the merits of his passion we may be led to eternal life; through the same. By Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

C **Amen.**

THE STORY OF ST. LUCIA

Saint Lucy, or Lucia in Italian, was a noble-born Christian young lady who was martyred in Sicily during the Roman persecution of Christians around 303AD. At a young age, Lucy decided to dedicate her life to the church and never marry. She wanted to give her dowry to the Church and help the poor. It would be this generous spirit that would cause the Roman authorities to arrest Lucy.

Sing verse 1 of Sancta Lucia

During the Roman persecution, Lucy begged her mother to allow her to spend her dowry on food to feed the Christians hiding in the catacombs. During the day, she would prepare the food for the Christians in hiding. This has become the tradition of baking saffron buns and sweets for this day to prepare for the Julebord dinner. At night, Lucy would deliver the food to all the hungry Christians. It is said that the only way she could traverse the catacombs and carry the food was by fastening candles around her hair to guide the way in the dark. Girls today around the church still wear crowns of candles this day in honor of St. Lucia.

Sing verse 2 of Sancta Lucia

It was historically on Lucy's Day that the light began gradually to return and the days to lengthen. The root Latin word of the name Lucy is "Lux" meaning light. This was particularly powerful in Northern Europe, where the days of winter were quite short. In Scandinavian countries, particularly Sweden, Lucy's day has long been a festival of light for the whole country. In the celebration of Lucia, a young girl in the family will dress in pure white (a symbol of Lucy's faith and purity), tie a red ribbon around her waist (a sign of Lucy's martyrdom), wear a crown of lighted candles upon her head (a sign that on Lucy's day the light is returning), and serve her family food prepared especially for the day.

Sing verse 3 of Sancta Lucia

SANCTA LUCIA

Night comes with hea - vy steps through our land, call - ing
 Though long may be the night, hope, she is bring - ing,
 The dark - ness soon shall flee val - leys in sha - dow,

Sun - light, the earth forgets; sha - dows are fall - ing,
 Hear now, the maid in white, si - lent - ly wing - ing,
 Sun - light I can fore - see, over over the mea - dows,

How ev - er dark the night, ris - ing with candles bright,
 Hushed won - der in the air, Lights glow - ing in her hair,
 The sun will come a - gain! Rise in the sky to reign!

San ta Lu ci a San ta Lu ci a
 San ta Lu ci a San ta Lu ci a
 San ta Lu ci a San ta Lu ci a

WORD

Psalm 126

Spoken responsively

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”

³The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

⁵Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the first chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

John’s gospel describes Jesus as the “light of the world.” John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Andrew Patty

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding

ELW HYMN 246



1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 See the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, come with par - don down from heav'n.
4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son

"Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
Let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all, to be for - giv'n;
he will shield us with his mer - cy and with words of love draw near.
with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it while un - end - ing a - ges run!

MAGNIFICAT

P In the words of Mary, let us proclaim our joy in the coming of Christ.

C My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy. The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever.

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.

THE PRAYERS

A God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

A God of preachers and messengers, you have entrusted your church with the work of proclaiming good news. Strengthen the witness of bishops, pastors, deacons, church musicians, lay leaders, and all people who contribute their prayers and talents to public worship. Embed your word in their hearts. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of every living creature, you bless and sustain all of your creation. Extend your kindness and relief to endangered animals and plants. Strengthen the human beings who rely on the rhythms of nature to make their living. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of all peoples and nations, you give us hope in this season and ask us to care for one another. Be present with the leaders of every nation as they govern. Give them a spirit of righteousness, that your goodness and mercy is revealed through their actions. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of exiles and wanderers, you repair what was once destroyed. We pray for people who have been displaced from their homes by fire, flood, earthquake, or storm. Support the work of Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, and all disaster relief organizations in their recovery efforts. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P God of the powerful and helpless, you clothe us with strength when our spirits are weak and weary. Bestow your spirit upon this congregation and empower us to comfort the people who turn to us in times of need. Make your church a place of refuge and healing. We especially pray for Lucille Brill, Eleanor Jewell, Don Longren, and Duane Pomeroy. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of learning, you lead us and our sister congregations in the way we should go. Give your church the mercy to open their doors and hearts to all. We especially pray for Holy Cross Lutheran in Overland Park, St. Paul Lutheran in Peabody, Redeemer Lutheran in Salina, Friends Home Lutheran in Savonburg, Kansas, and Lutheran Family & Children's Services, St. Louis, Missouri. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of life, you bless us with many joys. Today we pray for Sara King and Don O'Brien as they celebrate their birthdays, and Ivan Carlson as he remembers his baptism. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P God of sinners and saints, you offer joy even in the midst of our grief. We are grateful for the beloved, imperfect people whose lives testified to your radiant love. Anoint all who mourn with the oil of gladness. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Let us greet one another with God's peace.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY



And all who trust him and obey
will find when Jesus comes again
that they are heirs to that bright place,
God's realm of glory, their domain!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

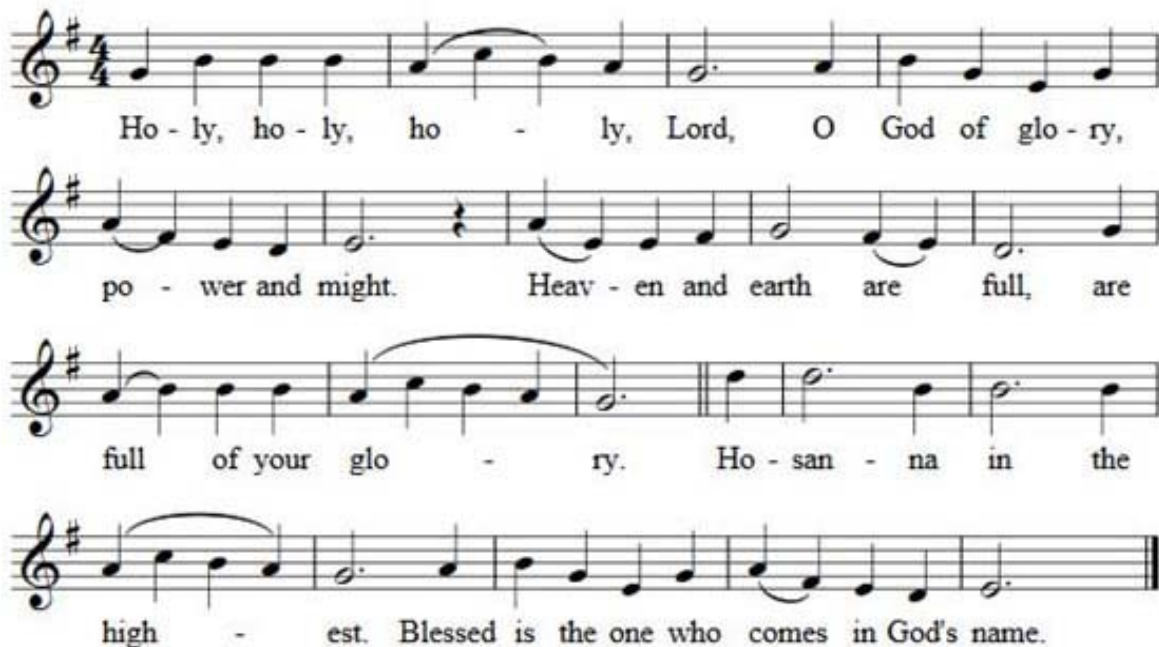
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice.
In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy,
strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus
Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill
you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TRINITY

Today, Dec. 133rd Sunday of Advent
 St. Lucia Day
 Online Worship with Holy Communion..... 10:30 AM

Tues., Dec. 15.....Advent Devotional on Facebook

Wed., Dec. 16Historic Old Town Meeting on Zoom 6:30 PM

Thurs., Dec. 17.....Singing the Unsung on Zoom 6:30 PM

Sunday, Dec. 204th Sunday of Advent
 Online Worship with Holy Communion..... 10:30 AM

OFFERING, ATTENDANCE, and FINANCIAL STATUS						
Date	General	Other	Total Weekly Income	Average Weekly Expense	Weekly Income Minus Average Weekly Expense	Attendance/ Communion
Nov. 8	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,192.00	0
Nov. 15	\$1,640.00	\$0.00	\$1,640.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$1,152.00	0
Nov. 22	\$1,570.00	\$715.00	\$2,285.00	-\$2,792.00	-\$507.00	0
Nov. 29	\$4,945.00	\$160.00	\$5,105.00	-\$2,792.00	\$2,313.00	0
			Income	Expense	Behind/Ahead	
		Oct 2020	\$5,920.00	-\$11,832.60	-\$5,912.60	
		Jan. - Oct	\$96,843.80	-\$102,467.04	-\$5,623.24	

The money in the November 29th “other” column is designated for Doorstep’s food pantry to help our neighbors in need during this holiday season. This figure also includes some poinsettias that will be delivered to shut-ins and decorate our sanctuary.



2020 Doorstep Christmas **Adoption Wish List**



As with everything else in this year of COVID, Doorstep's Christmas adoption will not be a "Store" this year.

We are still adopting 260 Households from the Christmas Bureau which includes 800+ individuals for Christmas, and **we greatly need your help with a few select donations!**

This year we are all trying to work together as a community and provide for Christmas. The Christmas Bureau and adopting agencies have agreed to provide each household at least a food order and \$15 Visa gift card (no activation fee) for each household member.



This year each household will receive from Doorstep:

- ♦ Christmas Food Order
- ♦ \$15 Visa gift card for each household member listed on their intake
- ♦ Blanket
- ♦ Health Kit



We will not have the volunteer opportunities we have had in the past. In an effort to be safe, we are keeping our circle of volunteers small, and using our regular volunteers to help with Christmas Adoption this year.

How You Can Help...

This year we only need a few things, but we need larger numbers of each.

Money - Our Biggest Need -

To purchase the food, gift cards for 800+ people, and other items we don't receive in donations.

Blankets - Twin (40), Full/Queen & King sized (165)

Towel Sets - Bath & Hand (130 each)

Health Kit Items - Full Size

**Shampoo & Conditioner (200 each),
Toothpaste (75), Deodorant (250)
& Combs (200)**

**Please Bring Donations to Doorstep at 10th & Buchanan,
Mon - Fri from 9am - 2pm (South Door) By Monday, Dec 7th.**

**Send your monetary donation to Doorstep, 1119 SW 10th Avenue,
Topeka, Ks 66604 or visit www.DoorstepTopeka.org - Donate.**



The mission of
**Trinity Evangelical
 Lutheran Church**
 is to

- worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- serve those in need, and
- reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

Together in Community • **L**iving with Christ • **C**aring for Neighbors

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday

Noon to 5:00 PM Wednesday

Telephone: (785) 233-0767

Congregation Council

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