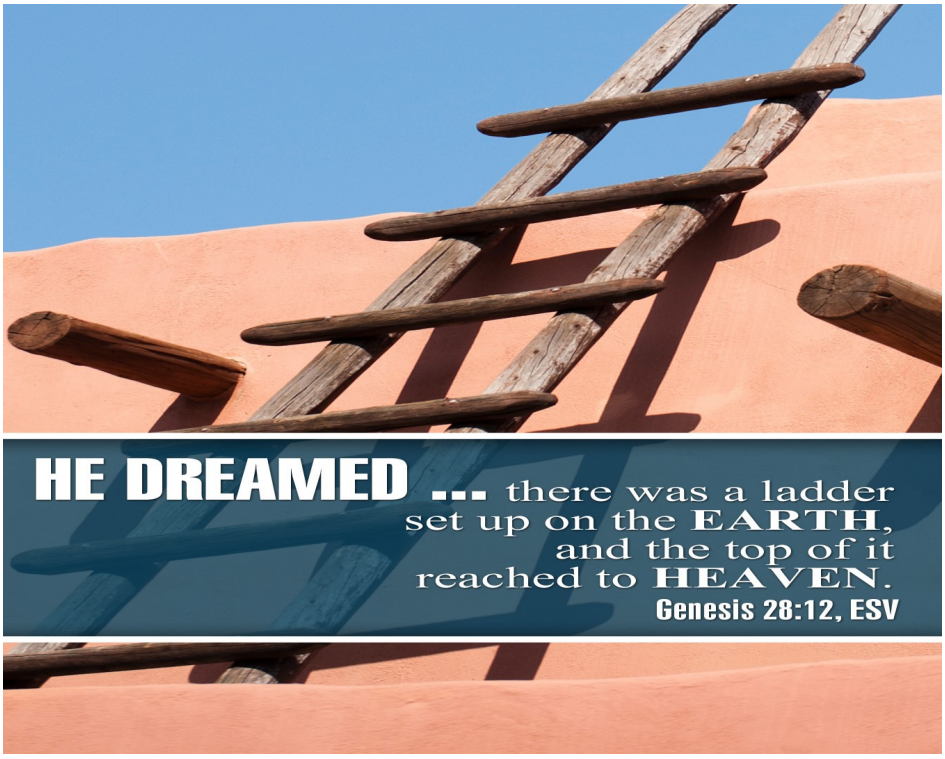
Lamb Of God Lutheran Church

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Midweek Advent Service #2



Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Empowered by Christ's Sacraments to be His witness in Friendship/Fellowship/and Faith.

2051 West Maple Ave.
Flint, MI 48507
810 234 2423

Pastor Mark Pretznow
248 736 8639

Midweek Advent Service #2

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Vespers

Welcome and Announcements

As We Gather

P Abrahm and Sarah gave birth to Isaac. Isaac and Rebekah gave birth to twins, Jacob and Esau. Esau was born first, followed immediately afterward by Jacob. As custom would have it, the Patriarchal blessing would be Esau's. But Jacob, whose name means "supplanter", schemed with his mother to steal that birthright from his brother. Because of this he had to leave town in a hurry. While he was on the run, the LORD came to him. How does the Lord come to us now, in our moments of need?

Opening Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always

C **and also with you**

P I invite you to stand as you are able and share that Peace of Christ with one another as you feel comfortable doing so.

Please remain standing for our Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn: 331 The Advent of Our King

A Lamb of God Favorite

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 121

P [1] I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?

C **[2] My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

P [3] He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

C **[4] Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

P [5] The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

C **[6] The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

P [7] The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

C **[8] The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

Gloria Patri *LSB 186*

C **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.**

Advent Versicles

P The Sprit and the Church cry out:

C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P All those who await His appearance pray:

C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P The whole creation pleads:

C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P Awaiting the Son of Man and the Son of God, we implore:

C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

331 The Advent of Our King

A Lamb of God Favorite

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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.**

Please be seated

Service of the Word

First Lesson: Genesis 27:41-28:4

41 Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with
which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, "The
days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill
my brother Jacob." 42 But the words of Esau her older son were told
to Rebekah. So she sent and called Jacob her younger son and said
to him, "Behold, your brother Esau comforts himself about you by
planning to kill you. 43 Now therefore, my son, obey my voice.
Arise, flee to Laban my brother in Haran 44 and stay with him a
while, until your brother's fury turns away— 45 until your brother's
anger turns away from you, and he forgets what you have done to
him. Then I will send and bring you from there. Why should I be
bereft of you both in one day?"

[46]Then Rebekah said to Isaac, "I loathe my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women like these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?"

[1]Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and directed him, "You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women. [2]Arise, go to Paddan-aram to the house of Bethuel your mother's father, and take as your wife from there one of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother. [3]God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples. [4]May he give the blessing of Abraham to you and to your offspring with you, that you may take possession of the land of your sojournings that God gave to Abraham!"

Reading Response

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson: Genesis 28:10-19a

[10]Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. [11]And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. [12]And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! [13]And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. [14]Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north

and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. [15]Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." [16]Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." [17]And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

[18]So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. [19]He called the name of that place Bethel

Reading Response

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able

Holy Gospel: John 1:43-51

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord**

[43]The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." [44]Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. [45]Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." [46]Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." [47]Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!"

[48]Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” [49]Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” [50]Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” [51]And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord
C **Praise be to You, O Christ**

Readings Response

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
C **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

Please be seated

353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring

Sung to the tune from #367 "Angels from the Realms of Gory"

1 Jesus came, the heav’ns adoring,
Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came to win redemption,
Lowly came on earth to die;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Came in deep humility.

2 Jesus comes again in mercy
When our hearts are worn with care;
Jesus comes again in answer
To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Comes to save us from despair.

3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,
Bringing news of sins forgiv'n;
Jesus comes with words of gladness,
Leading souls redeemed to heav'n.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Hope to all the world is giv'n.

4 Jesus comes in joy and sorrow,
Shares alike our hopes and fears;
Jesus comes, whate'er befalls us,
Cheers our hearts and dries our tears;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Comforts us in failing years.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon: Genesis 28:12-15
"Surely the LORD is in This Place"

Please stand as you are able

Catechetical Instruction:
The Second Article of the Apostles Creed

Redemption

C **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.**

P What does this mean?

C **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

P who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,

C **purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil;**

P not with gold or silver,

C **but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,**

P that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom

C **and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,**

P just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

C **This is most certainly true.**

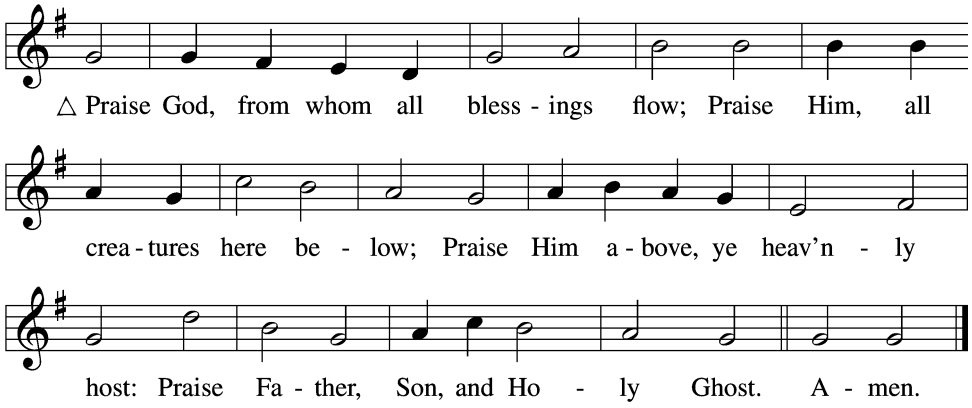
Offering and Prayers

Offering Statement

P We do not pass the offering plate here at Lamb of God. If you are a visitor, we don't want you to feel obligated to give an offering, we are just glad that you have joined us for worship this day. Those who would like to give an offering may drop it off in the Offering Box in the Narthex, the box across from the Church Office, mail their Offering Envelope in, or use our online giving portal from our website.

805 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

A Lamb of God Favorite



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Please be seated

Prayer Requests are collected from the congregation.

Litany

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

P. ...let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**

The prayers then continue:

P For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:
C **Alleluia.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen**

P Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:
C **To You, O Lord.**

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able

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.

Closing Blessing *Psalm 146:5*

P O LORD, our God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that Your Holy Spirit is leading us, and Your hand is supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be and abide with you all

C Amen

331 The Advent of Our King

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Closing Peace

P Go in peace, serve the Lord

C Thanks be to God

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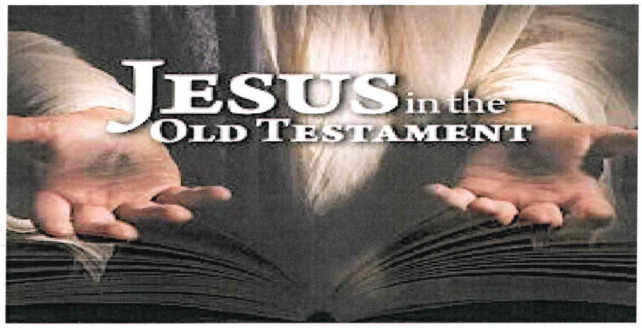
Midweek Advent Sermon Series:
Christ's Advent Viewed
From the Old Testament
Wednesday December 20th, 2023

7:00 pm

"**I AM Has Come to Save You**" (Exodus 3)



ADVENT SUPPERS

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

MENU: Beef Stew, Salad.

JACOB'S DREAM