ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Lohman (Stringtown), Missouri Phone (573) 782-3191 Cell: (573) 818-2112 Brian Whittle, Pastor Email: stjohnstringtown@gmail.com Website: www.stjohnstringtown.org Facebook: fb.me/stjohnstringtown/

December 20, 2020 🕆 Fourth Sunday in Advent

*St. John's Lutheran Church* is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.

**Today** the paraments are blue. We are finishing the season of Advent, in which we look forward to Jesus' return to fulfill what He announced in His first Advent. He will come to judge the living and the dead and usher in the new heaven and the new earth.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, please see the pastor prior to the service).

**Children's Christmas program** will be today at 10:30am, outside. It will be livestreamed.

**Christmas Eve candlelight** service of lessons and carols will be Thursday, December 24 at 7pm.

Christmas Morning Divine Service will be at 9am.

Last Sunday, December 13, 2020: Attendance: 73 / 8 (livestream) SS: 28 Offerings: \$1555 / \$225.75 / \$140 (electronic)

# CALVARY INSIDER – Here's What Is Going On!

#### CALVARY INSIDER - What happened this past week at Calvary?

- Calvary's Archery Team kicked off the season WINNING the tournament at St. Andrews School in Tipton. Matthew Johnson and Jocelyn Scheppers both took home TOP honors for high school boys and girls. Congrats to other TOP 5 finishers in this tournament: Madie Hardin, Emily Hauck, Jacob Johnson, and Carter Hunget.
- Students celebrated the "5 days of Christmas," organized by Student Government. It included cookies, Christmas sweaters and hats, photos with Santa, a snowball fight, and a hot chocolate break to "prepare" for finals!
- It was Lions vs. Lions as the basketball teams defeated the Tuscumbia Lions Tuesday.

**SEASON FOR GIVING** – Through the years, many members of the Calvary family have blessed our ministry by making end-of-the-year gifts to Calvary. These gifts can help provide items off our Wish list, pay down our loan, or help better equip us to *Build Christian Leaders*. If you are interested in making a year-end gift to Calvary by check or online, through the gift of stock or your RMD, please contact John Christman at 638-0228 or <u>admin@calvarylhs.org</u>.

**CHRISTMAS BREAK** – To celebrate the Christmas season, Calvary will be out of school from December 23-January 4. During that time, we will have limited office hours to allow our staff to spend time with their families. The office will be open 8am-12pm Wednesday, December 23, and then closed December 24 - January 3. The office will reopen with regular hours starting January 4.

**EARLY REGISTRATION BONUS** – We are thrilled that new students have already begun to apply for admission for the 2021-2022 school year! Current 9th, 10th & 11th grade students can also register for next year now. Re-register for the 2021-2022 school year with your \$100 registration fee before January 4, 2021 and receive a \$50 credit toward your student's '21-'22 tuition. Get your bonus today!

**OUR PARTNER IN MINISTRY** – Calvary Lutheran High School would not be the school it is today without the amazing gift of time and service from numerous volunteers at Calvary's Gift. Through the end of 2020, the store is only open to the public two days per week, but they would like to start 2021 off strong by expanding those hours. This has been a great opportunity for retired volunteers to socialize and turn one person's castaways into another's valuable find! Be a part of the mission of Calvary – share the story of Jesus Christ with our community. Call John Meisel to learn more, 821-8875.

# Holy Baptism

# (Kristina Shelton & Chelsie Wood)

#### **Baptized into Your Name Most Holy**

 Baptized into Your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
 Buried with Christ and dead to sin, Your Spirit now shall live within.

- My loving Father, here You take me To be henceforth Your child and heir. My faithful Savior, here You make me The fruit of all Your sorrows share. O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threat'ning clouds around I see.
- My faithful God, You fail me never; Your promise surely will endure.
   O cast me not away forever If words and deeds become impure.
   Have mercy when I come defiled; Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.
- 4 All that I am and love most dearly— Receive it all, O Lord, from me. Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be! Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but Yours alone. Text: Public domain

#### Stand

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### C Amen.

Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the

Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

#### The pastor addresses each candidate:

- **P** How are you named?
- R [Name]

# The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P [Name], receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your 
 + forehead and upon your 
 + heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

#### P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hardhearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold <u>[name(s)]</u> according to Your boundless mercy and bless <u>[him/her/them]</u> with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in <u>[him/her/them]</u>, which has been inherited from Adam and which <u>[he himself / she herself / they themselves][has/have]</u> committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that <u>[he/she/they]</u> be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, <u>[he/she/they]</u> would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

#### C Amen.

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:

### 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.

C Amen.

#### Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

- **P** [Name(s)], do you renounce the devil?
- **R** Yes, I renounce him.
- **P** Do you renounce all his works?
- **R** Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you renounce all his ways?
- **R** Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
- **R** Yes, I believe.
- Do you believe 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?
- R Yes, I believe.
- Do you 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 everlasting?

**R** Yes, I believe.

- [P] [Name], do you desire to be baptized?
- R Yes, I do.

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

- [P] <u>[Name]</u>, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

- P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life + → everlasting.
- C Amen.

# The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

#### The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

- In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you [a member / members] of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and [an heir / heirs] with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our [brother(s)/sister(s)] in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.
- **C** Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

#### Stand

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted <u>[name(s)]</u> the new birth in Holy Baptism and made <u>[him/her/them][a member / members]</u> of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and <u>[an heir / heirs]</u> of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as <u>[he/she/they][has/have]</u> now become Your <u>[child/children]</u>, You would keep <u>[him/her/them]</u> in <u>[his/her/their]</u> baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure <u>[he/she/they]</u> may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our

Lord.

C Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all her members, and mercifully grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

 $\mathbf{P}$  Peace + be with you.

C Amen.

All return to their places.

# Service of the Word

# Introit

Psalm 19:1, 4c, 5-6; antiphon: Isaiah 45:8a, b

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;\* let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.\*

In them he has set a tent | for the sun,

which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*

and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,\* and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

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.

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;\* let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit.

# Kyrie

- 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.

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### Sit

#### **Old Testament Reading**

#### 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, <sup>2</sup>the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." <sup>3</sup>And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, <sup>5</sup>"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? 6I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. <sup>7</sup>In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" <sup>8</sup>Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house....

<sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

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

# Epistle

#### Romans 16:25-27

<sup>25</sup>Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings

has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### Stand

#### Alleluia and Verse

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

#### **Holy Gospel**

P

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

#### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

 O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. Refrain LSB 357

LSB 156

Luke 1:26-38

- ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!
- O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, Who ord'rest all things mightily;
   To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain
- 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height In ancient times didst give the Law In cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain
- O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
   Free them from Satan's tyranny
   That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
   And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain
- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Refrain
- O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
   And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
   Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
   And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain
- O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain Text: Public domain

#### Sermon

#### Stand

# **Prayer of the Church**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

#### Brief silence

In thanksgiving to God for the favor shown us in Christ and His incarnation; for faith to believe that nothing is impossible with Him; and that everything would be to us according to the Word of the Most High, let us pray to the Lord:

#### C Lord, have mercy.

- For faithful preachers of Your Gospel to bring about the obedience of faith by the mystery of Christ now revealed in the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures; Pastor Diener at Grace Lutheran Church in Holt's Summit; for missionaries Thomas Aadland (12/24) and Ronald Rall (12/26); for military chaplains Gregory Lutz and Sol Grosskopf; for the administrators and teachers at Calvary Lutheran High Schoool; for Matthew, our Synod president; *Lee*, our district president; and *Pete*, our circuit visitor; and for the Holy Christian Church, that God would strengthen it in every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For our nation, its president, all legislators and judges, and those newly elected to serve, that God would preserve their lives and guide their actions for the good of our people; for peace among the nations of the earth, and that God would preserve us from pestilence and famine, war and bloodshed, sedition, rebellion and every evil, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For all women with child and all mothers with infant children, that God would grant them increasing happiness in their blessings; for those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week, including Kenny Walker (12/24); for the lonely, the depressed and the despairing; for the sick, the anxious and the dying [especially Katie Corrigan, Jen Schmitt, Leigh Fenton, Jackie Brown, Lois Belshe, Carolyn Walker, and Dennis Propst]; and for those who mourn [the death of \_\_\_\_\_], that they would take comfort in the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:

# C Lord, have mercy.

For all who receive Christ's holy body and precious blood today, that they may eat and drink it in repentance and faith and in the unity of a true confession; and for a love and desire for the blessed Sacrament this Christmas, let us pray to the Lord:

# **C** Lord, have mercy.

O Most High, we give You thanks for Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Key of David and the scepter of the house of Israel. By His death, He has opened the kingdom of heaven and closed the gates of hell for all who trust in Him. By His resurrection, He has rescued the prisoners who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death. Grant that, as we recall with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

# Offering

# Offertory

 What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
 I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
 I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

# Service of the Sacrament

# Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** 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 (Full)**

 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 promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, 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 with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

# Sanctus

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

# Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

LSB 160

LSB 161

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

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

 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 + → 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 H 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 163
P C	The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen.	
Agnus Dei		LSB 163
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.	

# Thank the Lord

LSB 164

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek 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.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same 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 God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### Benediction

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.

# Arise, O Christian People

- Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today; Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes your sins away.
   To us by grace alone The truth and light were given; The promised Lord from heaven To all the world is shown.
- Prepare the way before Him; Prepare for Him the best.
   Cast out what would offend Him, This great, this heav'nly guest.
   Make straight, make plain the way: The lowly valleys raising, The heights of pride abasing, His path all even lay.
- The humble heart and lowly God raises up on high;
   Beneath His feet in terror The haughty soul shall lie.
   The heart sincere and right, That heeds God's invitation And makes true preparation— It is the Lord's delight.

LSB 166

4 Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; Turn not from me aside, And help me to receive You This blessèd Adventtide. From stall and manger low Come now to dwell within me; I'll sing Your praises gladly And forth Your glory show. Text: Public domain

# The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

C Amen.

sit

# Distribution

The pastor and those who will assist with distribution, then move to the door of the church and parish hall to give the Lord's body and blood to worshipers as they leave. Please start with those in the balcony and back of the church or parish hall, remaining a "safe" distance behind those in front of you.

#### O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

- O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be, Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.
- 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day! My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art! Text: Public domain

# Savior of the Nations, Come

- Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home! Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.
- Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh— Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

LSB 632

- Here a maid was found with child, Yet remained a virgin mild.
   In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.
- Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall; God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.
- God the Father was His source,
   Back to God He ran His course.
   Into hell His road went down,
   Back then to His throne and crown.
- For You are the Father's Son
   Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
   By Your mighty pow'r make whole
   All our ills of flesh and soul.
- 7 From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.
- △ 8 Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king, Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.

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