

A Brief Form of the Service

Adapted from

Lutheran Service Book – Divine Service Setting 3

Zion Lutheran Church, Petoskey, MI

December 12, 2021

Third Sunday in Advent

PRESERVICE MUSIC & THE BELLS

OPENING HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound” LSB #349

INVOCATION *(Please rise)*

Leader: We begin in God’s Name:
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Leader: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Leader: Let us confess our sins to the Lord:
O almighty God, merciful Father,

ALL: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You, and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Leader: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

PSALM *Psalm 85*

P: LORD, you were favorable to your land;

C: you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

P: You forgave the iniquity of your people;

C: you covered all their sin. Selah

P: You withdrew all your wrath;

C: you turned from your hot anger.

P: Restore us again, O God of our salvation,

C: and put away your indignation toward us!

P: Will you be angry with us forever?

C: Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

P: Will you not revive us again,

C: that your people may rejoice in you?

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

C: and grant us your salvation.

P: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;

C: but let them not turn back to folly.

P: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,

C: that glory may dwell in our land.

P: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;

C: righteousness and peace kiss each other.

P: Faithfulness springs up from the ground,

C: and righteousness looks down from the sky.

P: Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

C: and our land will yield its increase.

P: Righteousness will go before him

C: and make his footsteps a way.

RESPONSIVE KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray...

COLLECT PRAYER

(Please be seated)

THE FIRST LESSON *Zephaniah 3: 14-20*

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND LESSON *Philippians 4: 4-7*

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 7: 18-28*

¹⁸ The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹ calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ²⁰ And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" ²¹ In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²² And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers

are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ²⁴ When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.” ²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

“When All the World Was Cursed” LSB #346

THE SERMON

THE CREED

Pastor: We confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

ALL: 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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will 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.

THE OFFERING

We will continue to receive your Offerings in the wooden box at the entrance. However, the Offerings will be brought forward by an Elder and as they are brought forward the congregation arises and sings:

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB #781

**We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

PRAYERS

[After each petition, we will respond:]

Leader: Lord, in your mercy...

People: Hear our prayer.

[At the conclusion of our prayers, we join together...]

ALL: 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: We now turn our attention to these elements of God’s grace, as we hear Christ’s words, instituting His Holy Supper:

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 covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

And may the peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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.

(Members of Zion and members of other LCMS congregations are encouraged to join us at the communion rail to receive the Lord’s Supper. For those who are new among us, or members of a different faith background, please speak with pastor before partaking. We love to have conversations about the Lord’s blessings, so please feel free to ask if you have questions about our beliefs and practices surrounding this Sacrament. Thank you!) [The Communion Meal is distributed.]

(Note: We have returned to the option of kneeling at the Communion rail and Pastor will individually dismiss each table with a blessing.)

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread” LSB #625

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT PRAYER

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

L: And now, receive the blessing of our God:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor, and grant to you His peace.

ALL: **Amen**

THE CLOSING HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway” LSB #343

POSTSERVICE MUSIC

