



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES
Babbtown (Meta 8 am)
Schubert (Jefferson City 10 am)

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The First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024

Order of Worship: Printed below
(with P for Pastor, C for Congregation)
or

found on page 15 in The Lutheran Hymnal TLH

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The Ringing Of The Bell

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn: TLH #66 "Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes"

**Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And ev'ry voice a song.**

**He comes the pris'ners to release, In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.**

**He comes, from thickest films of vice To clear the mental ray
And on the eyeballs of the blind To pour celestial day.**

**He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace T'enrich the humble poor.**

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name. Amen.**

Invocation: p. 15 [*Responses Sung*]

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

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

Confession: *[Spoken by all]*

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

Absolution p. 16

P: 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.

C: *[Sung]* Amen.

Introit

Gloria Patri: p.16 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Kyrie: p.17 *[Sung]*

C: **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

The Gloria in Excelsis: p. 17-19 *[Sung]*

C: **Glory be to God on high; And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Response: p.19

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *[Sung]* **And with thy spirit.**

The Prayer Of The Day: *[Spoken by all]*

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Response *[Sung]:* Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

Choir Anthem: “*Star of Advent*” (Schubert)

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Gradual

The “Triple Hallelujah”: [*Sung*]

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: The Holy Gospel appointed to be read for today is from the Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 21.

C: [*Sung*] Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

The Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-28

²⁵ [Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

P: Here ends the reading of the Holy Gospel.

C: [*Sung*] Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

The Nicene Creed p. 22

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 Ghost 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 sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

Sermon Hymn: TLH #645 “Behold, a Branch is Growing”

**Behold, a Branch is growing Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing; It springs from Jesse’s race
And bears one little Flow’r In midst of coldest winter, At deepest midnight hour.**

**Isaiah hath foretold It In words of promise sure,
And Mary’s arms enfold It, A virgin meek and pure.
Thro’ God’s eternal will This Child to her is given At midnight calm and still.**

**The shepherds heard the story, Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of Glory, Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped And in the manger found Him, As angel heralds said.**

**This Flow’r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness ev’ry where.
True Man, yet very God; From sin and death He saves us And lightens ev’ry load.**

**O Savior, Child of Mary, Who felt our human woe;
O Savior King of Glory, Who dost our weakness know;
Bring us at length, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven And to the endless day. Amen.**

Sermon: “A Branch is Growing” Text: Jeremiah 33:14-16

(The Offerings are brought forward. Offering plates are at the entrances.)

Offertory p. 22 [Sung]

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Prayers

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

[We invite those who are communicant members of sister Lutheran Congregations, in the fellowship of LC-MS, and are repentant, to commune with us.]

The Preface: p. 24 [Responses Sung]

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

C: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right and salutary that we should at all time and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

The Sanctus: p. 26 [Sung]

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer: p. 27

**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;**

[Sung] For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution: p. 27

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake 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."

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Pax Domini: p. 27

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

C: **[Sung] A - - - - men.**

The Agnus Dei: p. 28 [Sung]

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace.
A - - - - men.**

The Distribution

Distribution Hymns: TLH #58 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee"

**O Lord, how shall I meet Thee, How welcome Thee aright?
Thy people long to greet Thee, My Hope, my heart's Delight!
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy Thy lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly All that may please Thee best.**

**Thy Zion strews before Thee Green boughs and fairest palms,
And I, too, will adore Thee With joyous songs and psalms.
My heart shall bloom forever For Thee with praises new
And from Thy name shall never Withhold the honor due.**

**I lay in fetters, groaning, Thou com'st to set me free;
I stood, my shame bemoaning, Thou com'st to honor me;
A glory Thou dost give me, A treasure safe on high,
That will not fail or leave me As earthly riches fly.**

**Love caused Thy incarnation, Love brought Thee down to me;
Thy thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, That led Thee to embrace,
In love all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race!**

**Rejoice, then, ye sad-hearted, Who sit in deepest gloom,
Who mourn o'er joys departed And tremble at your doom.
Despair not, He is near you, Yea, standing at the door.
Who best can help and cheer you, And bids you weep no more.**

**Ye need not toil nor languish Nor ponder day and night
How in the midst of anguish Ye draw Him by your might.
He comes, He comes all willing, Moved by His love alone,
Your woes and troubles stilling; For all to Him are known.**

Sin's debt, that fearful burden, Let not your souls distress;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon And cover by His grace.
He comes, for men procuring The peace of sin forgiven,
For all God's sons securing Their heritage in heaven.

What though the foes by raging, Heed not their craft and spite;
Your Lord, the battle waging, Will scatter all their might.
He comes, a King most glorious, And all His earthly foes
In vain His course victorious Endeavor to oppose.

He comes to judge the nations, A terror to His foes,
A Light of consolations And blessed Hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Thy beams so cheering, And guide us safely home. Amen.

TLH #250 "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark! the glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy, Lord!

Lo, th'apostles' holy train Join Thy sacred name to hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refrain, And the white-robed martyrs follow,
And from morn to set of sun Thro'the Church the song goes on.

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee,
Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery. Amen.

The Nunc Dimittus: p. 29 [*Sung*]

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy Word,
For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation:
which Thou hast prepared before the Face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Thanksgiving: p. 30

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

C: [*Sung*] **And His mercy endureth forever.**

The Thanksgiving Prayer: pp, 30-31

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith towards You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C: [*Sung*] **A- - - - men.**

The Benedicamus: p. 31

P: The Lord be with you.

C: [*Sung*] **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord

C: [*Sung*] **Thanks be to God.**

The Benediction: p. 31

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

C: *[Sung]* **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Closing Hymn: TLH #68 "The Advent of Our King"

**The advent of our King Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing In strains of holy joy.**

**The everlasting Son Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on To set His servants free.**

**O Zion's Daughter, rise To meet thy lowly King,
Nor let thy faithless heart despise The peace He comes to bring.**

**As Judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite With Him in heav'n to reign.**

**Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone
The old man all be put away, The new man all put on.**

**All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever One, Through all eternity. Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Announcements

Have A Blessed Week!

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BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS: Babbtown – Sophia Bunker; Schubert – Colin Larkins, Amy Ripley, & Meg Belcher.

PASTOR: Rev. Bart Mueller.

ORGANISTS: Babbtown – Kathy Bauer; Schubert – Keith Bohl.

USHERS this Sunday: Jim Forbis & Andy Beach.

USHERS next Sunday: Jim Forbis & John Hanes.

GREETERS this Sunday: Robert & Donna Skelly, front. Jennifer Hanes, side.

GREETERS next Sunday: Lynn Lofton, front. Linda Brenner, side.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Gene Walkenhorst & Russ Mueller.

ACOLYTE this Sunday: Ava Willson.

ACOLYTE next Sunday: Matt Kollmeyer.

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A WARM WELCOME to each of you in the Name of Jesus. We are glad to have you worshipping with us this morning.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and refresh you in your Christian walk of faith, as we feed together on God's Word and Sacrament.

If you are a guest we greet you with special joy. Please be sure to introduce yourself, sign the guest register, and come back soon.

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

- Allan Forbis, recuperating from a medical procedure.
- Jeannette Essen, hospitalized at Capital Region.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Bob Lorenz, who passed away Friday night. We comfort them with the promise of everlasting life that Jesus gives to all who believe in Him.

TODAY: Pick up your December/January newsletters.

MONDAY: Men's Bible Study, 6:00 p.m.

TUESDAY: Circuit Pastors Meeting in Fulton, 9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY: **Confirmation Class** (6th-8th) and **Weekday Bible School** (3rd-5th), **6:00 to 7:00 p.m.**
Advent Worship at Schubert, 7:00 p.m. Theme: "The Faith of Mary"

POINSETTIAS can be ordered for Christmas by putting your name on one of the sheets at the doors. Six-inch poinsettias are \$9.25 and eight- inch poinsettias are \$17.00.

Our **CHRISTMAS EVE Children's Service** is around the corner!
Schubert will practice: **Wednesday 12/18**, 5-6:30pm (before Advent worship) and **Sunday 12/22**, after church.
If you are interested in participating, check the signup sheet or email: stjohnslutheranjcmo@gmail.com

MO SCHOLARS is an opportunity for you to give to a fund to assist families with tuition to Lutheran Schools. The amount you give can be deducted from your state taxes in Missouri, dollar for dollar. Take advantage of this easy way to help with Christian education. For more information talk to Pastor Mueller or visit mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars.

DISHES AND SERVING ITEMS that you may have brought in the last weeks are on the table in the church lobby, or downstairs in the kitchen. Please check if something is yours. Thanks!

ANY NEWS, INFORMATION, REQUESTS or communications for the churches can be made by leaving a message on the church phone: 573-395-4591. Generally all messages are checked daily. You can also email the church at stjohnslutheranjcmo@gmail.com – and if you have any questions or concerns, we will respond as needed. If you need pastoral assistance right away, you can call Pastor Mueller at 507-360-8033.

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR: Abortion and assisted suicide arise out of panic. The Advent Gospel offers something better: promise and patient anticipation. During surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis, Jesus Christ means that better days are coming (Jeremiah 33:14), redemption is drawing near (Luke 21:28), and none who wait upon the Lord shall be put to shame (Psalm 25:3). Sufferings will end, but blessings accumulate. Breathe, trust, hope, and rejoice.

ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: Babbtown, 14. Schubert, 119.
Thanksgiving Day: Babbtown, 14. Schubert, 47.

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**Thanks be to God that we have the opportunity to gather in worship each week.
Make worship and Bible Study and the Lord's Supper a high priority in your life.**

<u>Babbtown</u>	<u>Schubert</u>
8:00 a.m. Worship Service	9:15 am. Sunday School
9:10 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study	9:30 a.m. Bible Study
	10:00 a.m. Worship Service

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Cover pic artwork: Allan Forbis

The Lutheran Hymnal: St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, © 1941.

Hymn # 66: Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-2; Luke 4:18; Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes; Author: Philip Doddridge (1735, cento); Tune: Chesterfield; Composer: Thomas Haweis, 1792.

Hymn #645: Isaiah 11:1-2; Es ist ein' Ros' entsprungen; Behold, a Branch is Growing; German author unknown (c. 1500); Translators: st. 1-4, Harriet R. Spaeth, 1875; st. 5, John C. Mattes, 1914; Tune: Es ist ein' Ros'; Source: "Alte geistliche Kirchengesang"; Cologne, 1599.

Hymn # 58: Scripture: Matthew 21:1-9; Wie sol ich dic empfangen; O, Lord, How Shall I Meet Thee; Author: Paul Gerhardt (1653, cento); Translation: Composite); Tune: Valet will ich dir geben; Composer: Melchior Teschner (1613).

Hymn #250: Scripture: Luke 2:14; Grosser Gott, wir loben dich; Holy God, We Praise Thy Name; Author unknown based on the Te Deum); Translator: Clarence A. Walworth (1853, alt.); Tune: Grosser Gott; Source: "Allgemeines Gesangbuch," Vienna, 1775.

Hymn # 68: Scripture: Zech. 9:9; Instantis adventum Dei; The Advent of Our King; Author: Charles Coffin, 1736; Tr. John Chandler, 1837, alt.; Tune: St. Thomas; Composer: Aaron Williams, 1770

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CALVARY NEWS



THANK YOU FOR A WEEK OF GIVING! – Calvary was blessed with gifts totaling over \$70,000 during our 6th Annual “Week of Giving!” These gifts make an immediate impact on the student experience at Calvary. Thank you for your prayerful support. As “Giving Tuesday” is emphasized on December 3, we are very thankful for our supporters who give their time, resources, and talents. How will you give the Gift of Calvary?

- Contribute directly at Calvary or on our website calvarylhs.org/support and the *Donate Now* button is at the top of the page.
- Select an item from our **Wishlist** at calvarylhs.org/wishlist
- Give a **Gift of Stock** directly to manage/reduce Capital Gains Tax
- Choose Calvary as the recipient of a **Required Minimum Distribution** from an IRA
- Use your **Thrivent Action Teams** to support Calvary activities, *ask us for ideas*
- Designate the Lutheran High School Association of Mid-Missouri for your **Thrivent Choice Dollars**
- Shop or Volunteer at **Calvary’s Gift**

CALVARY CHRISTMAS CONCERT – Join us Friday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. for the annual Calvary Christmas concert! Enjoy pieces performed by the Calvary Choirs and Band that are sure to get you ready for the Christmas season!

LION BASKETBALL – Upcoming games at **Home** and nearby:

Dec. 3 **Opening Home Games (JVB/VG/VB) at 5:00 v. Smithton**

Dec. 10 **Basketball Home Game (VG/VB) at 6:00 v. Bunceton**

EXPANDING EXCELLENCE AT CALVARY Learn more about Calvary’s long-term plan to grow ministry in a significant way by visiting ExpandingExcellenceCLHS.org

SHADOWS WELCOME – Applications for Calvary’s class of 2029 are incoming! 8th grade students are welcome to schedule shadow days at Calvary with interest in applying for the 2025-26 school year! If you know an 8th grader who would benefit from a Christian high school education, please invite them to visit the school with you. Parents, call us today to set up a shadow day for your child to experience Calvary.

Sermon Outline: A BRANCH IS GROWING – Jeremiah 13:14-16

Introduction – Some things are hard to see unless you look closely

1. The Old Testament pointed ahead to a Savior
 - a. From the family tree of Adam, Abraham and David
 - b. The Savior would be like a branch, or a sprout
 - c. When the Savior came, he would be hard to see
2. Jesus was born at Christmas
 - a. How many people knew the Savior had come?
 - b. The Branch grew up and called people to believe in Him
 - c. They killed the Branch
3. Jesus asks you to look closely at what Christmas means
 - a. A Branch grows in your life to be your God and Savior
 - b. It is hard to see sometimes and Satan wants to cloud your vision
 - c. The life-giving Branch wants you to have life

Conclusion – You will see your God and Savior here, in this church, at his Advent