

~ Opening Prayer ~

Opening Hymn - 55

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

**Pastor:** *In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**Congregation:** *(Sung) Amen.*

**P:** *O Lord, open Thou my lips.*

**C:** *(Sung) And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.*

**P:** *Make haste, O God, to deliver me.*

**Cong:** **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**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. Hallelujah!**

**P:** *God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.*

**C:** **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

**P:** *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

**C:** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P:** *Let us pray:*

**ALL:** **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions.**

**But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us.**

**Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

**P:** *Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. Because of His Passion we are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!*

Our Advent Psalm

*(Psalm 24)*

**P:** *The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness,*

**C:** **The world and those who dwell therein.**

**P:** *For He has founded it upon the seas,*

**C:** **And established it upon the waters.**

**P:** *Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?*

**C:** **Or who may stand in His holy place?**

**P:** *He who has clean hands and a pure heart,*

**C:** **Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.**

**P:** *He shall receive blessing from the LORD,*

**C:** **And righteousness from the God of his salvation.**

**P:** *This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him,*

**C:** **Who seek Your face.**

**P:** *Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!*

**C:** **And the King of glory shall come in.**

**P:** *Who is this King of glory?*

**C:** **The LORD strong and mighty,  
The LORD mighty in battle.**

**P:** *Lift up your heads, O you gates!*

**C:** **Lift up, you everlasting doors!  
And the King of glory shall come in.**

**P:** *Who is this King of glory?*

**C:** **The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.**

Psalm 96

*Worship Supplement, pg 26*

Scripture Reading

**Luke 1:5-38** There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife *was* of the daughters of Aaron, and her name *was* Elizabeth. 6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years. 8 So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, 9 according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense

when he went into the temple of the Lord. 10 And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. 11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And when Zacharias saw *him*, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. 15 "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. 16 "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. 17 "He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." 18 And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." 19 And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. 20 "But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time." 21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marveled that he lingered so long in the temple. 22 But when he came out, he could not speak to them; and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple, for he beckoned to them and remained speechless. 23 And so it was, as soon as the days of his service were completed, that he departed to his own house. 24 Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, 25 "Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on *me*, to take away my reproach among people." 26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name *was* Mary. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!" 29 But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." 34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 "Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 "For with God nothing will be impossible." 38 Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Luther's Explanation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article*

**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;**

**Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent sufferings and death;**

**That I should be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness; even as He is risen from death, lives and reigns to all eternity.**

**This is most certainly true.**

Hymn - 66

*"Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes"*

### **The Silence of Zacharias - A Lesson of the Promise of Christmas**

Luke 1:5-25 And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." 19 And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. 20 "But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."

Hymn - 60

*"Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding"*

~ Offerings - Prayers ~

## The Kyrie

*(Sung)*

**Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.  
Christ, have mer-cy up-on us.  
Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.**

~ The Lord's Prayer ~

**P:** *The Lord be with you.*

**C:** ***(Sung)* "And with thy spirit."**

**P:** *Let us pray - O blessed Lord of glory, You are the God over all forever.*

**C:** **To You we render heartfelt thanks for all Your great and unspeakable blessings.**

**P:** *Out of love beyond measure You descended from the throne of Your divine majesty to us poor mortals in this vale of tears, in order to preserve us lost and condemned sinners from the pit that has no water.*

**C:** **With all our strength we magnify You, O Jesus, King of glory.**

**P:** *You came upon this earth for the sole purpose of delivering us from our enemies, from sin, death, hell and the devil.*

**C:** **With Your holy blood You produced an eternal reconciliation between Your heavenly Father and us.**

**P:** *By Your precious merits You regained our lost righteousness for us.*

**C:** **Hosanna!**

**P:** *O Lord, save now!*

**C:** **O Lord, send prosperity now!**

**ALL:** ***(Sung)* Amen**

**P:** *Bless we the Lord.*

**C:** ***(Sung)* Thanks be to God.**

**P:** *The Benediction*

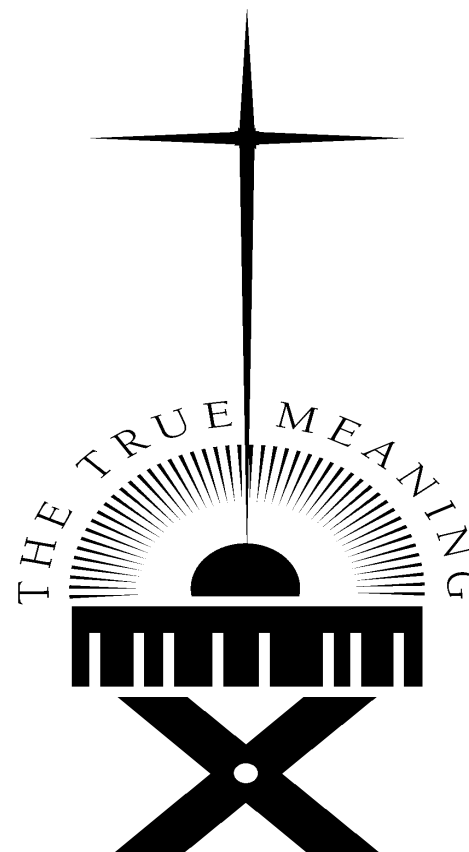
**C:** ***(Sung)* A- - - men.**

Evening Hymn - 558

*"All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"*

*"How Silently, How Silently,  
The Wondrous Gift is Given!"*

Advent 2009



of Christmas

*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church*

*Hecla, SD - CLC*