

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Advent 3

December 17, 2017

Pastor Mark Voss

MESSENGERS OF THE KING Point to Jesus Like John

Our Worship

OPENING

P: O Lord, teach us your ways,

C: That we may walk in your truth.

P: You comfort and help us day by day.

C: We trust your loving care.

P: You are the King of heaven and earth.

C: We give you praise and thanks. Alleluia!

PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, you invite us to pray and promise that where two or three come together in your name, there you are with us. Answer our prayers, and fulfill our desires according to your wisdom and love. Strengthen us in the knowledge of your truth, and grant us life everlasting.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN – *“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”*

CW 16

CONFESSION OF SINS

ALL: We thank you, Lord God the Father, that you have given us your one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

We thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, that you have born in your sacred body all our sins, and by your blood have blotted out all our transgressions.

We thank you, Lord the Holy Spirit, that you have created in our hearts true faith, and that we trust nothing else for our salvation, except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

P: O God, grant us your grace, that we may perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven through the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so enlighten us by your Holy Spirit, that in the power of our Redeemer's death, we may put off sin and never forsake our Lord Jesus Christ, until we see him face to face in life eternal.

ALL: We ask it all in Christ's name. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE – “How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

CW 358 vv 1, 3, 5 Text and Tune: public domain. *Setting: c 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of CPH.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a steady rhythm. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes that support the vocal line.

How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In a be - liev - er's ear!
Dear name! The rock on which I build, My shield and hid - ing place,
O Je - sus, Shep-herd, Guard-ian, Friend, My Proph - et, Priest, and King,

It soothes our sor - rows, heals our wounds, And drives a - way all fear.
My ne - ver - fail - ing trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

P: We light three Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Light of the world. He came to defeat the prince of darkness.

C: We remember Jesus, who came in answer to his people's prayers. John proclaimed him the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

P: We hear his call to see the light.

C: We light three Advent candles as a sign of our trust and confidence.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Three Advent candles are lit.

God's Word in Our Lives

EPISTLE – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 – A reason for joy

¹⁶Be joyful always;

¹⁷pray continually;

¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

¹⁹Do not put out the Spirit's fire;

²⁰do not treat prophecies with contempt.

²¹Test everything. Hold on to the good.

²²Avoid every kind of evil.

²³May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.
Alleluia.

Matthew 11:10

GOSPEL – Luke 3:1-18 – John points to Jesus

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar--when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene-- ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the desert,
Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.
⁵Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low.
The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth.
⁶And all mankind will see God's salvation."

⁷John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰"What should we do then?" the crowd asked.

¹¹John answered, "The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same."

¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"

¹³"Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them.

¹⁴Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?"

He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely--be content with your pay."

¹⁵The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. ¹⁶John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

P: In a world that has difficulty believing in the one true God, but is so ready to believe that our universe happened by some unknown accident, what do you believe?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P: In a society that so quickly rejects what God did through his Son, what do you believe?

C: I 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.

P: While many put their trust in things or people that they make into their gods, what do you believe that Jesus did that proves he has conquered death and is true God just as he said?

C: He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Those who refuse to trust the Lord are without hope. What do you believe that gives you hope?

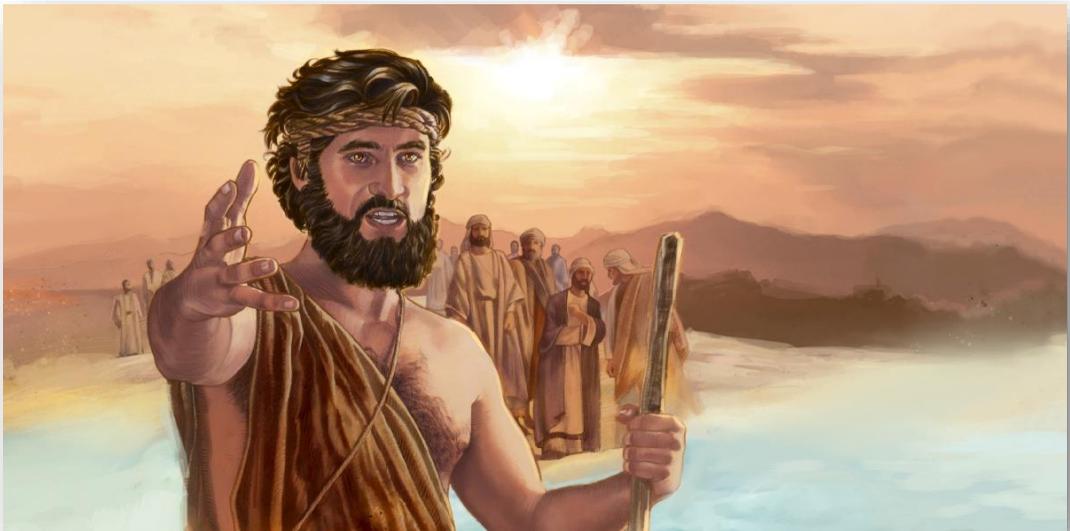
C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERMON HYMN – *“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”*

CW 13

Sermon Point to Jesus Like John

Based on the Gospel



OFFERING AND SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

WORDS FROM THE UPPER ROOM

COME SHARE THE LORD

CH462 CCLI Song No. 106408 © 1984, 1987 Fred Bock Music Company Bryan Jeffery Leech For use solely in accordance with the SongSelect Basic Terms of Agreement. All rights Reserved. www.songtouch.com CCLI License No. 2291251



He joins us here; He breaks the bread. The Lord who pours the cup is ris - en
We'll gath - er soon where an - gels sing; We'll see the glo - ry of our Lord and
from the dead. The one we love the most is now our gra - cious host:
com - ing King. Now we an - tic - i - pate The feast for which we wait:
Come, take the bread, come, drink the cup; come, share the Lord.
Come, take the bread, come, drink the cup; come, share the Lord.

RECEPTION AND MEDITATION

THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth.

C: We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

P: By his incarnation,

C: He became one with us.

P: By his perfect life,

C: He fulfilled your holy will.

P: By his innocent death,

C: He overcame hell.

P: By his rising from the grave,

C: He opened heaven.

ALL: Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting. Amen.

BLESSING

P: May the blessing of the eternal God be upon us: his light to guide us, his presence to shelter us, his peace to unite us.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – “Comfort, Comfort All My People”

CW 11 vv 1 & 3



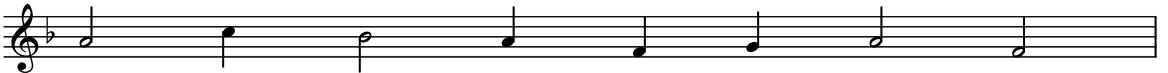
"Com-fort, com - fort all my peo - ple; Speak of peace," so says our God.
John the Bap - tist's voice is cry - ing In the des - ert far and near,



"Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, Groan - ing from their sor - rows' load.
Call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance For the king - dom now is here.



Speak to all Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;



Tell them that their sins I cov - er,
Let the val - leys rise to meet him



That their war - fare now is o - ver."
And the hills bow down to greet him.

Our Purpose

Christ Our Redeemer was organized in 1965 so that with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it might strengthen the faith of its members and reach out into the community and the world.

To carry out this purpose we believe and teach:

That the Bible is the Word of God and the only foundation for Christian faith and life;

That God revealed in the Bible as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, is the true and living God;

That all people have sinned against his holy will, fall short of his glory, and therefore deserve to be condemned eternally;

That Jesus Christ came into the world to deliver all people from the guilt and power of sin and that he lived and died as the perfect and only substitute;

That through faith created by the Holy Spirit, the benefits of Christ's works are received personally;

That on the last day Jesus will return to judge the living and the dead and will take all those who trust in him to eternal life.

We join in that confession with over 1200 congregations of the
Wisconsin Lutheran Synod
and with them carry on a world-wide ministry. www.wels.net

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

17700 East Iliff Avenue, Aurora, CO 80013

303-337-0025

corchurch.com

christredeemer@corchurch.com

Principal Phil Scriver 303-337-3108

Phil.scriver@christredeemerschool.org

Pastor - Mark Voss 303-337-0025 / 303-808-0611

markvoss@corchurch.com