



## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3600 25<sup>th</sup> St, Columbus, IN 47203

Phone: (812) 372-1256 Web site: [www.flccolumbus.org](http://www.flccolumbus.org)

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday

Facebook: First Lutheran Church (Columbus, IN)

### CASUAL WORSHIP

December 5, 2021 - 11:15 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

#### WELCOME TO THE LORD'S HOUSE!

We are so glad to have you with us this morning! There is an extended time of praise and worship at the beginning of the service, and we want you to worship your Lord as you feel comfortable. All forms of worship are acceptable, such as singing, clapping, standing, sitting, kneeling, and dancing. Please worship your God in a way that draws you closer to Him!

## GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING PRAYER:

**Creative God, the gift of Jesus brings us here. Change our hearts and hands through this gift. Help us to be the change we want to see. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

## WORSHIP & PRAISE

### SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

## WORSHIP & PRAISE

### TIME OF OPEN PRAYER

### GOSPEL READING: Luke 3:1-6

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

4Prepare the way of the Lord,  
 make his paths straight.  
 5Every valley shall be filled,  
 and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
 and the crooked shall be made straight,  
 and the rough ways made smooth;  
 6and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'”

## **SERMON: “God’s Infrastructure Plan”**

**Pastor Larry Isbell**

### **BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

*You may either stand or kneel.*

P: Holy and loving God,  
 Here, in public worship, we confess  
 Our sins We fall short of your  
 Intentions for us.

**C: We find it hard to believe your good news  
 Is for us. We fail to care for all the gifts  
 You give us—our time, our talent, and  
 Our possessions. We fall short of your  
 Intentions for us.**

P: We fail to truly see our neighbors.  
 We look past the stranger.

**C: We find it convenient to be self-righteous  
 When it comes to politics and ethics.**

P: Forgive us Lord God! Help us to do  
 Better—to be better. We ask through  
 Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, the  
 One who emptied himself just to be  
 With us and save us.

**C: Amen.**

### **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

P: Paul teaches us in Romans chapter 5: If in Adam and Eve all have died—so now--in Jesus Christ--all are made alive. Let us rejoice in the lifegiving power of God's unconditional love. Our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.

**C: Amen.**

**APOSTLES' CREED:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen**

**THE BLESSING OF THE OFFERING****COMMUNION LITURGY**

P. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

**THE 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.**

**HOLY COMMUNION:**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.*

*As you approach the altar rail, please keep a good space between yourself and others. The floor is marked where you may stand or kneel.*



**BENEDICTION**

P: Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**SENDING WORSHIP & PRAISE****SERVING FIRST TODAY**

Pastor: Pastor Larry Isbell

Greeters/Usher: John & Mary Ellen Wyman, & Dave Stocks

**WOUNDED HEALER PRAISE BAND**

Erika East, Annette Hull, Jennifer & Mike Langevin, Matt Pillar

***Today's altar flowers are given by Mark & Linda Pillar in honor of their 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.***