

MID-WEEK ADVENT 2020
"Songs and Silence"



OPENING PRAYER

Hymn: TLH #329:1-3

"From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee"

1. From depths of woe I cry to Thee, Lord, hear me, I implore Thee.
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me, My prayer let come before Thee.
If Thou rememberest each misdeed, If each should have its rightful meed,
Who may abide Thy presence?
2. Thy love and grace alone avail To blot out my transgression;
The best and holiest deeds must fail To break sin's dread oppression.
Before Thee none can boasting stand, But all must fear Thy strict demand
And live alone by mercy.
3. Therefore my hope is in the Lord And not in mine own merit;
It rests upon His faithful Word To them of contrite spirit
That He is merciful and just; This is my comfort and my trust.
His help I wait with patience.



P In the name of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- P** God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but desires that sinners repent, turn from their wicked ways, and live.
- C** "Teach me, and I will be silent; make me understand how I have gone astray." *Job 6:24*
- P** "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." *Rom. 3:10-12*
- C** "I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight." *Ps. 51:3-4*
- P** Jesus declared: "I am the resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" *John 11:25-26*
- C** "Yes, we believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." *John 11:27*

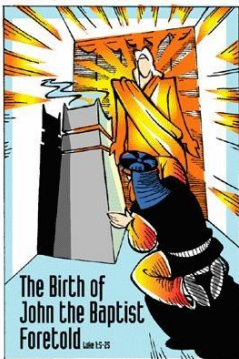
ABSOLUTION

- P** "The Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die." "In Jesus we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."
- C** Thanks be to God! *2 Sam. 12:13; Eph. 1:7*

C ♪ **My soul rejoices, My spirit voices— Sing the greatness of the Lord! For God my Savior Has shown me favor— Sing the greatness of the Lord! With praise and blessing, Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy— O sing the greatness of God the Lord! His mercy surely Shall rest securely On all who fear Him, Love and revere Him— O sing the greatness of God the Lord!**

His arm now baring, His strength declaring— Sing the greatness of the Lord! The proud He scatters, Their rule He shatters— Sing the greatness of the Lord! Oppression halted; The meek exalted. Full are the hungry; Empty, the wealthy— O sing the greatness of God the Lord! Here is the token All that was spoken, To Abr'ham's offspring God is fulfilling— O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

SCRIPTURE READING – Luke 1:5-25 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. ⁸ Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹ And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been 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 before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will 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 and he will 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 for the Lord a people prepared." ¹⁸ And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹ And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹ And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. ²² And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a

vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. ²³ And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. ²⁴ After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, ²⁵ "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

CONFESSION OF FAITH

☞ I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, Who sent His Son to be my Savior and the Savior of all humankind:

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Announced by Angels, Worshipped by the shepherds, Adored by the Wise Men, Who lived to suffer, die and rise again, To free us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, Who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas And by whose continuous work in my heart I am Led to lay before the feet of Christ the treasures of my love And live under Him as my King, Both now and forevermore.



Prince of Peace

Hymn: TLH #329:1-3

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

- 1. Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He the Source, the Ending He, Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see Evermore and evermore.**
- 2. Oh, that birth forever blessed When the Virgin, full of grace, By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bare the Savior of our race, And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face Evermore and evermore.**
- 3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing; Powers, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert ring Evermore and evermore.**

SERMON TEXT – Luke 1:18-20 And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹ And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time."

The Silence of Zechariah
The Promise of Christmas

Hymn: TLH #56:1-3**“Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring”**

1. Jesus came, the heavens adoring, Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came for man's redemption, Lowly came on earth to die;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility.
2. Jesus comes again in mercy When our hearts are bowed with care;
Jesus comes again in answer To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.
3. Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Bringing news of sins forgiven;
Jesus comes in sounds of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heaven.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Now the gate of death is riven.

LUTHER’S EVENING PRAYER

- C** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BENEDICTION*Num. 6:23-27*

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
C Amen!

Hymn: TLH #85:13-15**“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”**

13. Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be A quiet chamber kept for Thee.
14. My heart for very joy doth leap, My lips no more can silence keep;
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradle-song:
15. Glory to God in highest heaven, Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

Songs and Silence Schedule

<u>Nov. 29</u>	<u>Dec. 2</u>	<u>Dec. 6</u>	<u>Dec. 9</u>	<u>Dec. 13</u>	<u>Dec. 16</u>	<u>Dec. 20</u>
Song of Elizabeth	Silence of Zechariah	Song of Mary	Silence of Mary	Song of Zechariah	Silence of Satan	Song of Angels