CLOSING HYMN

The King Shall Come

ELW 260



- P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, HOCKESSIN DE

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 3, 2023 MORNING PRAYER 8:00AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- P God loves you all the time.
- C All the time God loves you.

Please stand as you are able.

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self examination.

- P Gracious God,
- C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P The almighty and merciful + Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.
- C Amen

HYMN

Fling Wide the Door ELW 855



HOLY COMMUNION

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.

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
- C 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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.
- P O God, for our redemption you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin so that we may rise to live with Christ forever; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- P Almighty God bless us, + and direct our days and our deeds in peace.
- C Amen.

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THE PRAYERS

- P Show us your mercy, O Lord,
- C and grant us your salvation.
- P Clothe your ministers with righteousness.
- C Let your people sing with joy.
- P Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
- C for only in you can we live in safety.
- P Lord, keep this nation under your care,
- C and guide us in the way of justice and truth.
- P Let your way be known upon earth;
- C your saving health among all nations.
- P Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten,
- C nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
- P Create in us clean hearts, O God,
- C and sustain us with your Holy Spirit.
- P Lord, we pray for those who are hurting in mind, body, or spirit,
- C Give them the healing, wholeness, and comfort of your presence.
- We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us.
- C Amen
- P The Lord be with you
- C And also with you
- P Lift up your heart
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

OPENING DIALOG

- P You are the treasured people of the LORD,
- C a people holy to the LORD our God.
- P Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.
- C Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.
- P One does not live by bread alone,
- C but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Please be seated.

READINGS

Genesis 17:1-7, 18-19, 21:1-6

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. 2And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. 5No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. 6I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. $^7\!\mathrm{I}$ will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. 15God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." 17Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, "Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" 18 And Abraham said to God, "O that Ishmael might live in your sight!" 19 God said, "No, but your wife Sarah shall bear you a son, and you shall name him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.

¹The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. ²Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son

whom Sarah bore him. ⁴And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me."

Mark 13:24-37

[Jesus said:] ²⁴"In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

- P The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

GOSPEL CANTICLE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

