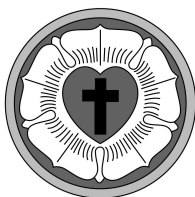
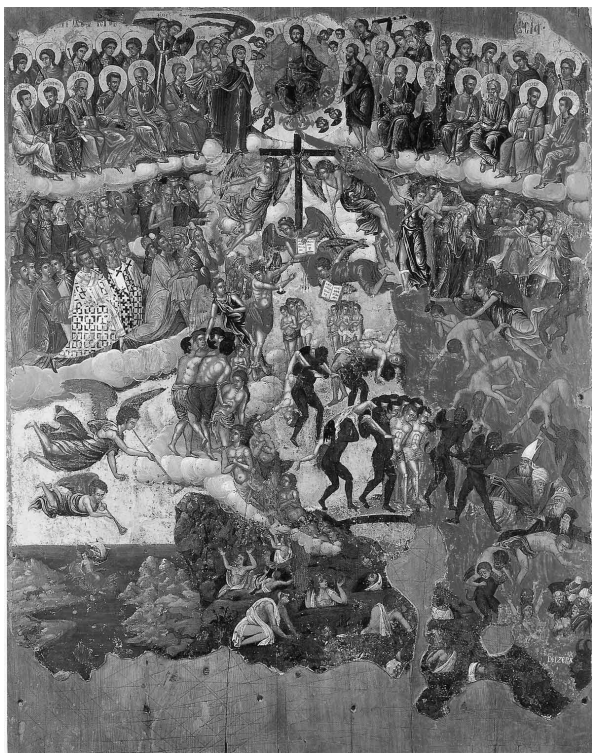


# Brighton Lutheran Mission



*Populus Zion*  
Second Sunday in Advent  
8 December 2013



**Your redemption is drawing near**

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*[brightonlutherans.wordpress.com](http://brightonlutherans.wordpress.com)*

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**Welcome to Brighton Lutheran Mission!**

**May God bless you richly as we  
gather together to receive His gifts.**

Please stay behind for a cup of tea or  
coffee afterwards. This is followed by a Bible  
study.

## **Holy Communion**

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, we eat and drink the actual body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and the wine, according to Jesus' own words. We also believe that those who participate in Holy Communion in a particular congregation should be in agreement in the confession of the faith.

Therefore, we ask that only those who are instructed in the Lutheran Confessions and are under our pastor's spiritual care come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

If you are visiting us and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor *before the service*. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Our teaching on this matter is explained in more detail in the little leaflet, 'Why Closed Communion?', which is available from the pastor.

***Thank you for honouring our beliefs.***

### ***Explanation of Symbols:***

- P** Pastor
- C** Congregation
- ✠ You may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.
- ❖ You may bow at this point as a sign of reverence.

## 337 Hymn: The Night Will Soon Be Ending

2 *Confession and Absolution**Catechism*

**P** What is the Office of the Keys?

**C** The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

**P** Where is this written?

**C** This is what St John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

**P** What do you believe according to these words?

**C** I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

*Introit* (Ps. 80:1, 3, 14, 17; antiphon: Isa. 62:11b; 30:30, 29)



**P** Say to the daughter of | Zion,\*

“Behold, your salvation comes.”

The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to be heard\*

and you shall have glad- | ness of heart.

**C** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph | like a flock!\*

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.

Restore us, | O God;\*

let your face shine, that we | may be saved!

Turn again, O | God of hosts!\*

Look down from | heaven, and see.

But let your hand be on the man of your | right hand,\*

the son of man whom you have made strong | for yourself!

❖ *Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit,  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.*

☐ Say to the daughter of | Zion,\*

“Behold, your salvation comes.”

☐ **The LORD will cause his majestic voice | to  
be heard\***

**and you shall have glad- | ness of  
heart.**

4 *Kyrie & Veni Emmanuel*

4 *Salutation and Collect of the Day*

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **The Readings**

#### *The Lord Comes on the Last Day*

The day on which our Lord returns will be a “*great and awesome day*” (Mal. 4:5). For He will come in a cloud with great power and glory. To the wicked and the proud, it will be a Day of judgement that will “*set them ablaze*” (Mal. 4:1). The signs preceding this Day will bring them fear and fainting. But to those who believe, who fear the name of the Lord, this Day is one to look forward to and rejoice in: “... *straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near*” (Luke 21:28). Christ our Redeemer is coming; the Sun of Righteousness will bring healing in His wings. Let us, then, give attention to the words of the Lord, which do not pass away. Let us “*through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures*” (Rom. 15:4) be strengthened in our hope by the Holy Spirit and watch diligently for Jesus’ coming. Then, by God’s grace, we shall escape all these things that will come to pass and stand before the Son of Man.

#### **Old Testament Reading—Malachi 4:1–6**

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup> And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>4</sup> “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup> “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD

comes. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

**Gradual (*Ps. 50:2-3a, 5*)**

**☐ Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God | shines forth.\***

**Our God comes; he does not  
keep | silence;**

**“Gather to me my | faithful ones,\*  
who made a covenant with me  
by | sacrifice!”**

**Epistle Reading—Romans 15:4-13**

<sup>4</sup>[Whatever] was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

<sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the  
Gentiles,  
and sing to your name.”

<sup>10</sup>And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

<sup>11</sup>And again,

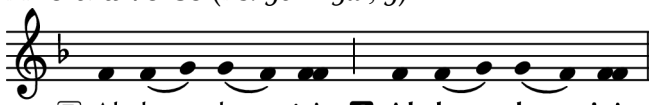
“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him.”

<sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says,

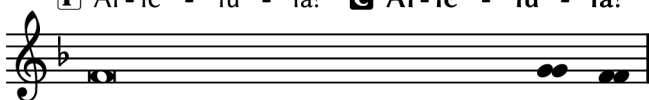
“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

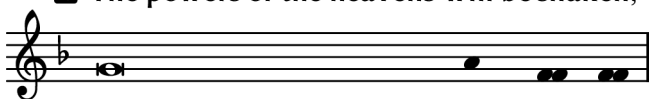
*Alleluia Verse (Ps. 50:2-3a, 5)*



**P** Al - le - lu - ia! **C** Al - le - lu - ia!



**C** The powers of the heavens will be shaken,\*



and they will see the Son  
of Man coming in a cloud  
with power and great glo - ry.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Gospel Reading—Luke 21:25-36*

**P** The ✠ Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twenty-first chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>25</sup> [Jesus said, “There] will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup> people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup> And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup> And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup> As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> “But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup> For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ!

7 *The Apostles’ Creed*

336 *Hymn: Lo, He Comes with Clouds*

## Sermon

8 *Prayer of the Church*

337 **Hymn: The Night Will Soon Be Ending**

9 *The Service of the Sacrament*

821 *Hymn: Alleluia, Sing to Jesus*

14 *Salutation & Benediction*

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### IN OUR PRAYERS

St. David Lutheran Church; Pr. Naumann; ELCE Salary Review Committee & Nominations Committee; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; Holland Road Baptist Church, Pr. David Treneer

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THE LARGE CATECHISM PART II: THE CREED, THIRD ARTICLE

While sanctification has begun and is growing daily, we expect that our flesh will be destroyed and buried with all its uncleanness. Then we will come forth gloriously and arise in a new, eternal life of entire and perfect holiness. For now we are only half pure and holy. So the Holy Spirit always has some reason to continue His work in us through the Word. He must daily administer forgiveness until we reach the life to come. At that time there will be no more forgiveness, but only perfectly pure and holy people. We will be full of godliness and righteousness, removed and free from sin, death, and all evil, in a new, immortal, and glorified body.

You see, all this is the Holy Spirit's office and work. He begins and daily increases holiness upon earth through these two things: the Christian Church and the forgiveness of sin. But in our death He will accomplish it altogether in an instant and will forever preserve us therein by the last two parts of the Creed.

Now this is the article of the Creed that must always be and remain in use. For we have already received creation. Redemption, too, is finished. But the Holy Spirit carries on His work without ceasing to the Last Day. For that purpose He has appointed a congregation upon earth by which He speaks and does everything. For He has not yet brought together all His Christian Church or granted all forgiveness. Therefore, we believe in Him who daily brings us into the fellowship of this Christian Church through the Word. Through the same Word and the forgiveness of sins He bestows, increases, and strengthens faith. So when He has done it all, and we abide in this and die to the world and to all evil, He may finally make us perfectly and forever holy. Even now we expect this in faith through the Word. Para.

57-62

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**Please join us for coffee & tea  
afterwards in the café downstairs**

**God willing, the next service  
will be held on  
13 January 2014 at 4.30 pm  
The next Bible study will be on  
Friday, 24 January at 3 pm.**

**Advent & Christmas Services in Fareham**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>
11 Dec	7 pm	Advent Vespers (St. Francis)
15 Dec	10:30 am	Divine Service— <i>Advent 3</i>
18 Dec	2 pm	Christmas Carols at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall
	7 pm	Advent Vespers (St. Francis)
22 Dec	10 am	Divine Service— <i>Advent 4</i>
	11:15 am	Children's Carol Service
23 Dec	2 pm	Christmas Carols at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
24 Dec	11 pm	Midnight Mass (tbc)
25 Dec	10 am	Divine Service— <i>Christmas Day</i>