



Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

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Setting 10

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing.
The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing.
The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand,
is good news – and cause for exultation – for us who are being saved.
Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

Joys and Concerns

Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

C. Amen

P. Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. God for whom we wait,

C. **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

P. God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C. Amen

Gathering Hymn

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

ELW 242

Lighting of Advent Wreath (third candle)

P. We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen**



Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



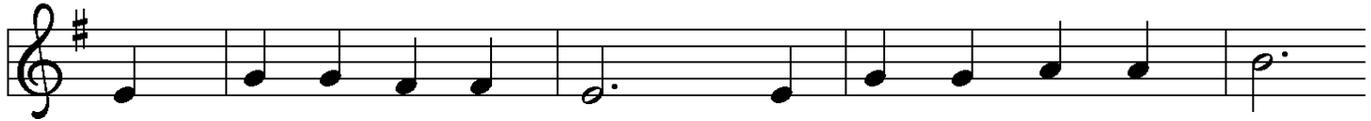
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Greeting

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

Kyrie



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray.

C. **Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.



The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.
I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.
And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.
At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

L. Word of God. Word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody

Isaiah 12:2-6

Read Responsively

Surely, it is God who saves me;
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

**For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.

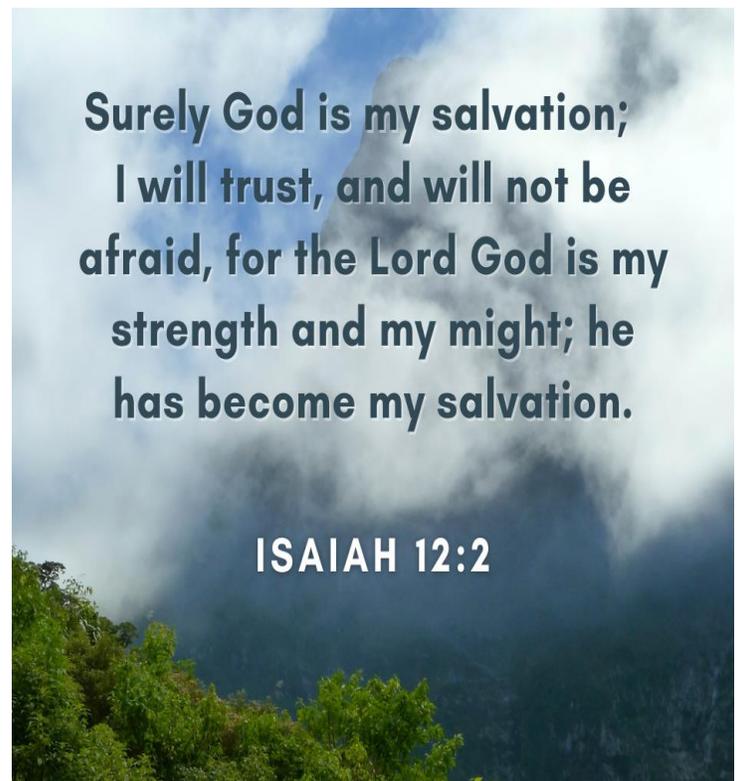
**And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;**

Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

**Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great
things,
and this is known in all the world.**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One
of Israel.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**



Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- L. Word of God. Word of life.
- C. Thanks be to God.



Gospel Acclamation

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

P. The holy gospel according to Luke, chapter three.



Bearing the Fruit of Repentance

Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"No Worries"

Pastor Wayne Dubnansky

Hymn of the Day

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
By the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Prayers of Intercession

- A. In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence

Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

- P. God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C. Amen.

The Peace

- P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.
C. **And also with you.**

The Offering

Anthem

Offertory Prayer

- A. God of our waiting and watching,
C. **we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.**
Amen

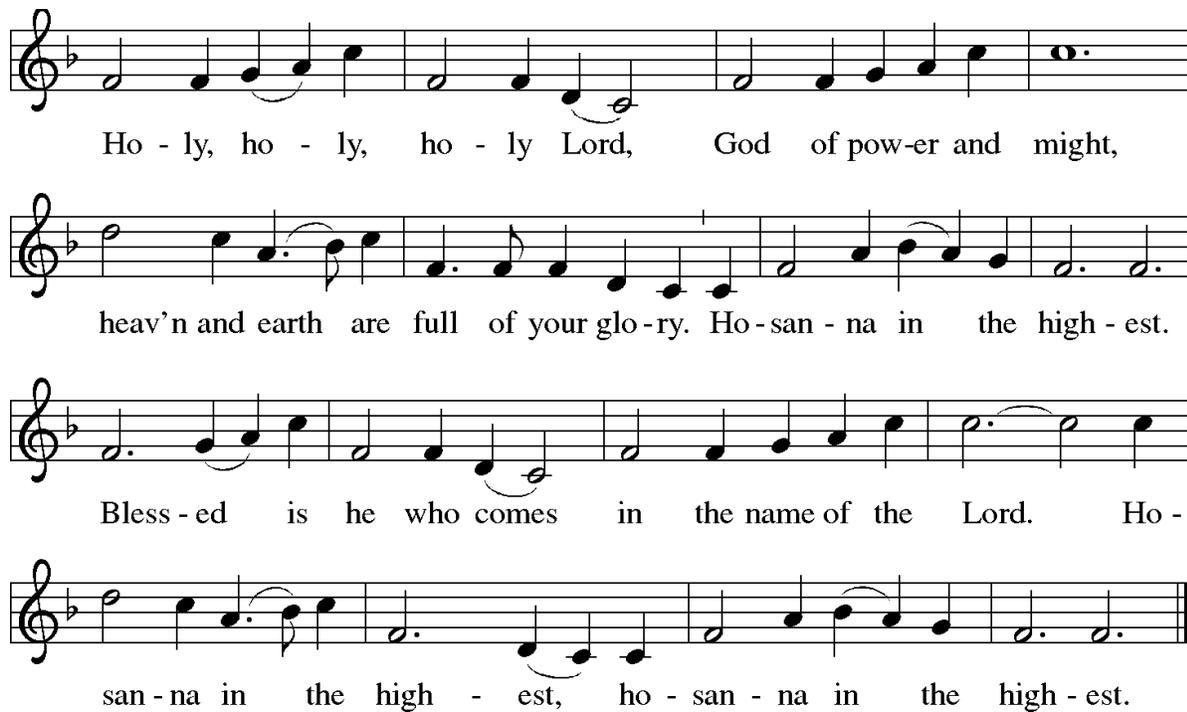
The Great Thanksgiving

- P. The Lord be with you.
C. **And also with you.**
P. Lift up your hearts.
C. **We lift them to the Lord.**
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
P. It is right that.....we praise your holy name saying:



Brad Hunnicutt

The Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Invitation to Communion

P. Come to Christ's banquet. Feast on God's gift of grace.

C. Amen

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Communion Hymns

<i>Jesus Loves Me!</i>	ELW 595
<i>Creator of the Stars of Night</i>	ELW 245
<i>My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness</i>	ELW 251

Post Communion Blessing

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C. Amen

Post Communion Canticle

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

ELW 494

Post Communion Prayer

A. Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
C. Amen.

Blessing

P. The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.
C. Amen

Sending Hymn

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

ELW 246

Dismissal

- A. Go in peace. Christ is near.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Servers for Sunday, December 12th:

- Assisting Minister Alecia Harrison
- Reader Shannon Thomsen
- Altar Guild Ginny King
- Greeters Harry & Sheryll Albert
- Acolyte Antonio Smith

Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.

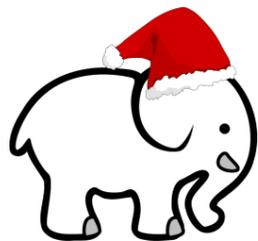
**Candles in the sanctuary this month are provided by
Alice Austin in loving memory of Jack Austin.**



A row of five lit candles in shades of purple, pink, and yellow, set against a dark background with bokeh light effects.

Advent Soup Supper & Worship Service

REMINDER: Each Wednesday during Advent there will be a Simple Supper and Mid-Week Reflection focusing on Haggai in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm, followed by Hand Bell Choir Practice at 6:50 pm, and Full Choir Practice at 7:30 pm. **All are invited and encouraged to attend!!**

A green pine branch with needles and a red Christmas ornament with white stars, positioned in the top right corner.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 17th at 7 pm

This year the men's group will be providing roast turkey and dressing, baked ham, as well as several other dishes including sweet potato, green bean and Mac & Cheese casseroles, salads, cranberries, dinner rolls, etc. Wine & soft drinks will also be provided. Please bring a dessert or any other special Christmas side dishes that you would like to enhance the dinner.

A Sign-Up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall to RSVP.

There will also be a white elephant gift exchange!!!

All are invited to attend!!!