

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE *There is None Like You* by the Power of Praise Band

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

L: Wandering in the wilderness,
new life comes to you.

Our souls will proclaim God's greatness
Eyes shall be opened,
Ears unstopped,
The lame will leap and tongues will sing for joy. (Isaiah 35: 5-6)
All creation will preach the good news

Now it's time to light the candles,
In God's name we will rejoice.
Once we were dead and now we are raised.
We will sing God's praises today!

**C: Light will overcome the darkness:
Sing the joy the Christ Child brings.**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (ELW #257 vs 3)

**O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We worship this morning in the name of the Father, and the Son +, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

P: Lord, you know us. As Christmas comes closer, we crowd out joy with busyness and crankiness and a to-do list that weighs us down. This week, Lord, slow us down. Give us eyes to see the wonders of your creation. Give us ears to hear children laughing – and to laugh along with them. Help us to make the time to appreciate the joyful feeling of having done a kindness for a stranger. Let us share in the joy with all Christians everywhere who know you are near.

C: Come close and bring the great Light of your Joy into our hearts. Come to us. Find us. Be with us. We ask for your blessing on this time. Fill us with joy in the closeness of you. Amen.

P: Let us come before God in confession.
(A time for personal confession and reflection.)

P: To you, O God,

C: To you, O God, we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; be our joy; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loves us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

SHARING A SIGN OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

GATHERING SONG *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (ELW #242)

- 1 **Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
 for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
 behold! the Child of our longing.
 Come as a baby weak and poor,
 to bring all hearts together,
 he opens wide the heav'nly door
 and lives now inside us forever.**

- 2 **To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
 Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near,
 yet fills the earth with its ringing;
 music to heal the broken soul
 and hymns of lovingkindness,
 the thunder of his anthems roll
 to shatter all hatred and blindness.**

- 3 **In darkest night his coming shall be,
 when all the world is despairing,
 as morning light so quiet and free,
 so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song,
 the lame shall leap in wonder,
 the weak be raised above the strong,
 and weapons be broken asunder.**

**4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.**

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.

Prayer of the Day

C: Spirit of the Lord God,

You bring good news to the oppressed, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and release the prisoners. You comfort all who mourn, and shower your people with the oil of gladness instead of mourning; a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. We will greatly rejoice in the Lord, our whole being shall exult in God, for the sake of the one who brought righteousness to life, Jesus Christ our salvation. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG

FIRST READING Isaiah 61: 1-11

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 4: 16-21

Before the Gospel is read: **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After the Reading: **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON – Pastor Amanda Olson de Castillo

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

***Love Divine All Love Excelling* (ELW #631)**

**1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 PRAYERS

After each petition.. P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things,

C: Through your mercy you have blessed us with our body and souls, all of our faculties and our property. Use us, and what you have given us in feeding the world with your faith and your forgiveness. We give you thanks and praise because you have blessed us with the greatest gift we can ever have, the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (ELW #254)

- 1 **Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.**

- 2 **Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
SANCTUS (SPOKEN)
WORDS OF INSTITUTION
LORD'S PRAYER**

COMMUNION BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

P: O God, our life, our strength, our food,

C: We give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to proclaim your promises to the world, that we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD

BLESSING

P: The Lord Bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace. Amen.

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Music By Dani Lemieux & Power of Praise Band

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License, License #R-196327.

Additional permissions: CCLI copyright License A-1519037 and Streaming License 20131125.

From Sundaysandseasons.com License SAS017466. Copyright ©2020 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved.