

December 12, 2021 8:30am WORSHIP BULLETIN – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Prelude *Silent Night* (ELW #281)

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Wreath Lighting

*WL: Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.*

*With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Give thanks to the Lord,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations (Isaiah 12:2-6)*

*Now it's time to light the candles,
In God's name we will rejoice.
singing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously,
We will shout in one loud voice!*

**C: Light will overcome the darkness:
See the hope the Christ Child brings.**

Candle Lighting Song ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel*** (ELW #253, verse 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: 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!
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.
Through the power of the Holy Spirit, I declare that
your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and the Son + and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn ***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.

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.

Prayer of the Day

All : 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3: 14-20

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Philippians 4: 4-7

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 3: 7-18

Before the Gospel is read:

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Reading:

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

Joy to the World (ELW #267)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

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.**

SHARING A SIGN OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

C: And also with you!

GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG

Give Thanks (W&P #411)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks!**

OFFERING PRAYER

WL: God of our waiting and watching,
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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN

Come and Taste (W&P #30)

**Come and taste
and see how good the love of God can be!
Come and taste
and see how good the love of God can be!
We come here brokenhearted,
seeking all that God offers.
Come and taste
and see how good the love of God can be!
Come see!**

Here is Bread (W&P #58)

Verse 1

**Here is bread here is wine
Christ is with us He is with us
Break the bread drink the wine
Christ is with us here**

Chorus

**In this bread there is healing
In this cup there's life forever
In this moment by the Spirit
Christ is with us here**

Verse 2

**Here is grace here is peace
Christ is with us He is with us
Know His grace find His peace
Feast on Jesus here (Chorus)**

Verse 3

**Here we are joined in one
Christ is with us He is with us
We'll proclaim 'til He comes
Jesus crucified (Chorus)**

COMMUNION BLESSING

COMMUNION PRAYER

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.
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 HYMN

People, Look East (ELW #248)

- 1 People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.**
- 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Rose, is on the way.**
- 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Star, is on the way.**
- 4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

Music by Faith Stock

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 2021 Augsburg Fortress All Rights Reserved.