

Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

Welcome to worship this third week of Advent. May the Holy Spirit bless and strengthen you today. Welcome pads are at the end of each pew; please sign your name and pass it along.

Sunday, December 16, 2018, 8:30am

Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Mission Opportunities and Sharing of the Peace

Invocation, Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

(Refrain) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of Justice, now draw near
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadow put to flight. *(Refrain)*

O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:

Refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. *(Refrain)*

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. Composite Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-704299

Prayer of the Day

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.

Special Music

“African Noel” arr. By Andre J. Thomas

Praise & Rejoice Choir with guests from the Community Choir

Percussion: Duane Niles

Directed by Arlene Brandt-Jenson

First Lesson

Isaiah 12:1-6

¹You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me. ²Surely 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. ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Lesson

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Children’s Church

in the Chapel with Tammy DeLange

Gospel

Luke 3:7-8a, 10-16

⁷John 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? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'.

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers 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."

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Looking for our Heavenly Parent

Pastor Kent Stillson

Song

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

(Refrain) O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *(Refrain)*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: *(Refrain)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *(Refrain)*

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

Apostles' Creed

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 to the dead. 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.

Offering

Prayer Song

“Away in a Manger”

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/ill: Ron Hagen, Evan Hamre, Carol Hinderaker, Shelley Hardie,
Christine Walraven, Elden Hemme, Sonya Benson,
Chad Lambert, Stan Peterson, Greg Dubois,
Martin Waller, *son-in-law of Nancy & Dean Slostad*
Jerry & Cindy Rudebusch, *friends of Lesa (Tom) Franken*
Josh Anderson, *grandson of Terri Bruner*
Pete Carlson, *son of Jerry & Marvel Carlson*
Ruben Speidel, *grandfather of the Pletan family*
Donnie Ammon, *cousin of Nancy Slostad*
John Lahey-Wiggs, *brother of Chala (Tom) Lechner*
Jim Wiggs, *brother of Chala (Tom) Lechner*

Death: Geri Mahlen

Cory Binger, *father of Emily Binger*

Prayer Song

“Away in a Manger”

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

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Holy Communion

Words of Institution – The Lord’s Prayer – Distribution

“Prepare Him Room”

“Come Emmanuel”

Post Communion Blessing

Benediction based on Philippians 4:7

May the peace of God, which surpasses all human understanding, keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. AMEN.

Sending Song

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

(Refrain) Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? *(Refrain)*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;

come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *(Refrain)*

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

Call to Service

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

*Flowers on the altar are given by Barb Dohrer
in memory of Rick Dohrer.*

Serving This Morning

Presiding: Pastor Dan Ofstehage

Preaching: Pastor Kent Stillson

Worship Team directed by Jim Miller

Head Ushers: Darwin Brinkman, Carl Bevers

Acolytes: Keslar Swenson, Logan Koll

Greeters: Nathan & Brittany Russell, Marlowe & Nancy Ronke

Sound & Projection: Kent Anderson, Darrin VanMeter

Lector: Pam Raeder

Ushers: Pete & Peg Juba, Al & Pam Raeder

Communion Assistants: Pam Raeder, Pete & Peg Juba

Sunday Morning Helpers: Kevin and Bernie Luoma

Coffee Servers: BeFriends

Welcome Center: Deb Ernst, Nancy Rogers, Barb Frentz

*Sound amplification devices and/or large print bulletins
are available. Just ask an Usher.*

Worship Schedule

- **Wednesday, December 19th** 6:30pm WOW Worship/Communion
- **Friday, December 21st** 6:30pm Longest Night Worship [scripture | prayer | song]
- **Saturday, December 22nd** 5:30pm Worship
- **Sunday, December 23rd** 8:30am Contemporary Worship
10:30am Traditional Worship
- **Monday, December 24th** Candlelight Worship 1:30pm – 3:30pm – 5:30pm – 10:00pm
Holy Communion Served at all 4 services.
- **Wednesday, December 26th** No Worship