

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Sunday, December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent



AS WE GATHER

“Rejoice always,” begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. “All God’s children got a robe,” go the words of the spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God’s party.

NOTES ON TODAY’S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 - Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of the Lord, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.

John 1:6-8, 19-28 - John’s gospel describes Jesus as the “light of the world.” John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.

+ +

PRELUDE

Morning Musical Devotions

Various

LITANY FOR ADVENT

A Blessed is the one who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth.**

A I will hear what the Lord God has to say

C **A voice that speaks for peace.**

A Peace for all people

C **And those who turn to God in their hearts.**

A God’s help is near for those who fear him.

C **And God’s glory will live in our land.**

A Blessed is the one who comes as king, who comes in the name of the Lord.

C **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth.**

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God,

C open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WELCOME AND SHARED MINISTRY REMINDERS

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

A A reading from Isaiah

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

A Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY FOR ADVENT

“God is Near”
Choral Introit

RESPONSIVE LITANY The Angel’s Message: Accept

During Advent our eyes are opened to the wonders of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our faith is nurtured by the promise of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our hope is reawakened to the presence of God.

With God all things are possible.

During Advent our lives are touched by the love of God.

With God all things are possible.



CANDLE LIGHTING

Today we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us that Advent is a time to hear again the message of hope offered through the Savior’s birth. The **second candle** calls us to believe that just as God worked mighty deeds in ages past, God is still actively at work today. The **third candle** is lit as we draw closer to God in faithful acceptance. Advent reminds us that even when God’s ways exceed our understanding, God’s word still demands our trust. As we continue our Advent journey, let us hear what God has spoken, believe what God has promised, and accept what God has revealed.

God is Near

Words and Music by
JOEL RANEY

Congregation:

Lis - ten to the an - gels, hear the mes - sage they bring;
tell - ing the news of a com - ing King; fill - ing the
world with_ hope and good cheer. Je - sus, Em -
man - u - el, _____ God is near. _____

THE GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John

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

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,

'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"

as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GIFTS OF OFFERING

"The Gift of Love"

Arr. John Carter

(Please sign the red welcome roster and pass it on as a ritual of friendship. Then pass it back noting the names of those you're worshipping with today.)

OFFERING SONG

Wait for the Lord (2X)

ELW 262

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Savior of the nations, come.

C Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith shine ever new and our lives reveal your light. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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 God thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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

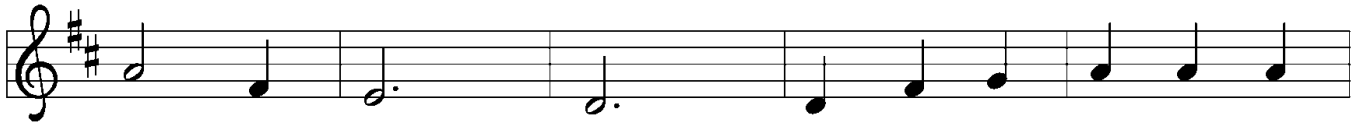
P Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.



I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

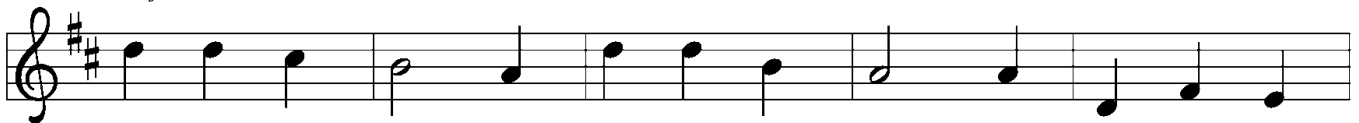


fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososǒ, ososǒ

O - so - sǒ o - so - sǒ, pyong - hwa - ūi - im - gŭm

1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sǒ.

Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

Music: OSOSŎ, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947

Text and music © Geonyong Lee.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

P May Christ, the Son of righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

CANTATA

“Sing Joy to All the World!”

Lloyd Larson

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. Hallelujah!

POSTLUDE

“The Joy of Christmas”

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

You are invited to join us for REFRESHMENTS in the Faith Center foyer.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Lectors: Clara Laskey, James Msechu/
Al Schmidt, Alessandra Tanfani

Communion: Sandy Russell, Judy Moore,
Charlotte Humphries//Darlene Schnuelle,
Marilyn Rakow, Al Schmidt

Ushers: Floyd Walker, David & Tamara
Crocker/Michael & Karen Idler

Altar Flowers: Nancy Bohnsack

Altar Guild: Paula Marsh/Carroll Fingar

Greeters: Erich & Georgia Sawatzky

The altar flowers this morning are given in gift by Nancy Bohnsack in celebration of Gavin Difley's 10th birthday.

Cantata Choir

Jane Anderson
Nadine Azevedo
Terri Batsel
Sue Becker
Patty Beers
Betty Donelson
Karen Ellis
Dave Freiberg
Josie Freiberg
Gib Hertler
Ruth Ijames
Ann Jolly
Sharon Kurdupski
Ruth Lockman
Phil Loper, soloist
Sally Loper
Dee Dee Lutz, Director
Doug MacAdams
Herb Mathay

Melodee Mathay, soloist
Bruce Minnich
Bill Murray
Shirley Murray
Tanis Palmer
Judy Roll
Nancy Schwegel
Warren Schwegel
Al Schaffer
Noreene Schaffer
Mary Stunz-Moller
Jim Van Soest
Linda Van Soest
Linda Waage
Junia Wager
Barbara Wammer
Bill Wells
Kathy Wood
Doc Wright

Special thanks to Tanda Ainsworth and Len Merkel (Narrators), Patrick Neal (PowerPoint), Diane MaCauley (facilities), Chris Cotter (sound and technical), Shirley Murray (staff accompanist), Ron Becker (publicity) and Kathy Johnson (bulletins).



Mark your calendars!

Sunday, December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent, Service of the Word – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship: 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. in the Faith Center. 8:00 and 10:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 31 – Lessons and Carols. **One service only** at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

