

Third Sunday in Advent

Welcome

“Rejoice in the Lord always!” may seem like quite the daunting task in today’s world. Yes, there are moments of joy, but there are also moments of tragedy and devastation. It is not possible to be always joyful. But rejoicing is not a task that we have to add to our to-do list. And we are not called to rejoice in everything always. We are called to rejoice in the Lord always. The God who rejoices over us with gladness and calms us with His love brings us into a relationship with Him that is filled with rejoicing at His presence and providence.



The Advent Wreath contains a number of symbols. The evergreen wreath symbolizes eternal life in Christ. The candles are symbolic of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. The act of lighting more candles each week anticipates the imminent coming of Christ.

Shepherd’s Candle symbolizes sharing the news of Christ’s birth. The pink color is representative of their joy and witness to so great an event!
– Joy

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ’s body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, and that we receive the forgiveness of sins along with the bread and wine in this Holy Meal. As a “Family Church,” we invite those who share this understanding, and who desire God’s forgiveness and strength, to join with us in receiving Holy Communion. (Gluten free wafers are available.) If you have any questions, please speak to our pastor at any time. All worshippers are asked to fill out the “Fellowship Pad” in the pew and pass it down. After all have signed, please leave the pad at the end of the pew to be picked up after worship. Please stand where indicated with a ❖. Thank you!

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

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Our Ministry Staff

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Mission Statement

*Trinity is a caring family where people gather to know, worship,
serve, and share Jesus.*

PRELUDE

'Variations on "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding"'

- Biery

GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

❖ **SHARING OF THE PEACE** *We encourage you to leave your pew and greet new people!*

+ *Please stand and face the cross during the procession to the altar* +

❖ **HYMN**

"Hark the Glad Sound"

LSB 349

❖ **CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS**

P *In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

[Matthew 28:19b]

P *If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

[I John 1:8-9]

+ *Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination* +

P *Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P *Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

[John 1:12; Phil. 1:6]

C **Amen.**

❖ **KYRIE**



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



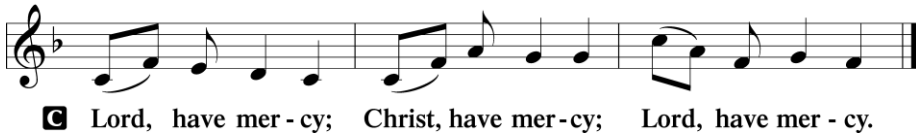
C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.*



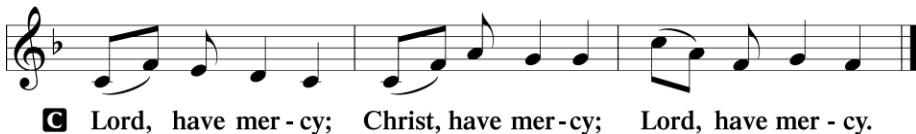
C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A *Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.*



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

❖ **PRAYER**

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Let us pray.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Deacon Debbie Vergara

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

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

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

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors.

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 in, at the time when I gather you together;

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.

R *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 85 *(Spoken responsively by Lecturn side, then Pulpit side)*

Lecturn: *Lord, you were favorable to you land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.*

Pulpit: **You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.**

Lecturn: *You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from you hot anger.*

Pulpit: **Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!**

Lecturn: *Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?*

Pulpit: **Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?**

Lecturn: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.
Pulpit: Let me hear what the Lord God will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Lecturn: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him; that glory may dwell in our land.

Pulpit: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Lecturn: Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

Pulpit: Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Lecturn: Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

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

EPISTLE

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

❖ ALLELUIA VERSE (Choir)

Alleluia! Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way before you. Alleluia!

❖ GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 7:18-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for

another?” In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’

I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*



C Praise to You, O Christ.

❖ **HYMN OF THE DAY** “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” LSB 345

SERMON Pastor John Hopkins

+ *Please turn and face your fellow members across the center aisle* +

❖ **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

❖ **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

A *Lord, in your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

OFFERING

+ Please pass the Fellowship Pad at this time +

OFFERING VOLUNTARY (6:30)

"Hark the Glad Sound"

– Burkhardt

TRINITY CHOIR (9:00)

"Zion at Thy Shining Gate"

– Scott

Zion, at thy shining gates lo, the King of Glory waits; haste thy monarch now to greet, strew thy palms before his feet. Christ, for thee their triple light, faith and hope and love unite; this the beacon we display to proclaim thine advent day. Come and give us peace within, loose us from the bands of sin, take away the galling weight laid on us by greed and hate. Give us grace thy yoke to wear, give us strength thy cross to bear, make us thine in deed and word, thine in heart and life, O Lord. So when thou shalt come again, judge of angels and of men, we with all thy saints shall sing alleluias to our King!

SOUNDS OF PRAISE (10:45)

"Will You Be Ready"

– Patterson

People who walk in darkness have seen a great light, the light will shine upon them; may it shine brightly tonight. *Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine upon you? Will you be ready for the light, ready for the light to shine? Will you be watching? Will you be listening? Will you hear the angels sing? Will you be waiting? Will you be searching for a Savior and a King? Will you be ready...* People keep watching, true light is coming, look for a bright star in the east. Look for the Christ Child, born in a manger, there you will find the Prince of Peace. *Will you be ready...*

❖ OFFERTORY *What Shall I Render*

What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

❖ PREFACE

P *The Lord be with you.*

C And al-so with you.

P *Lift up your hearts.*

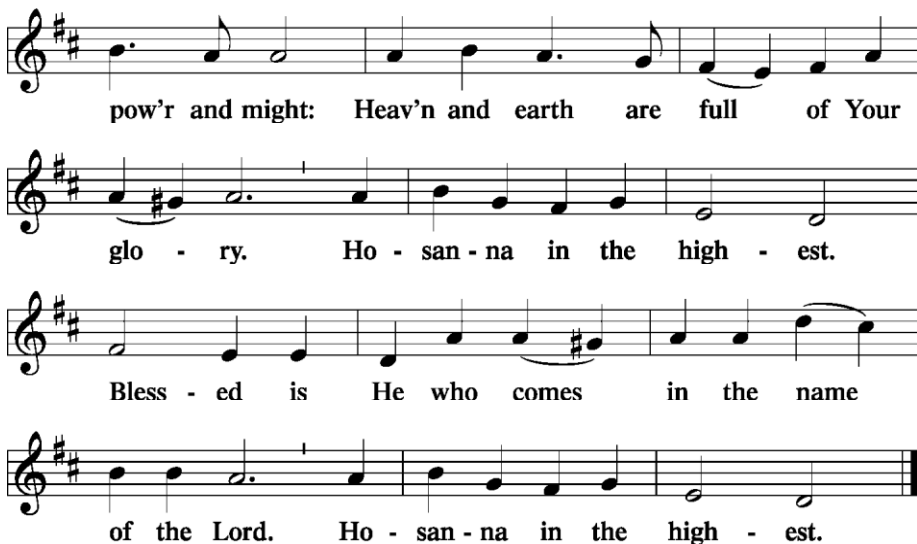
C We lift them to the Lord.

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r 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.

❖ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

❖ PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

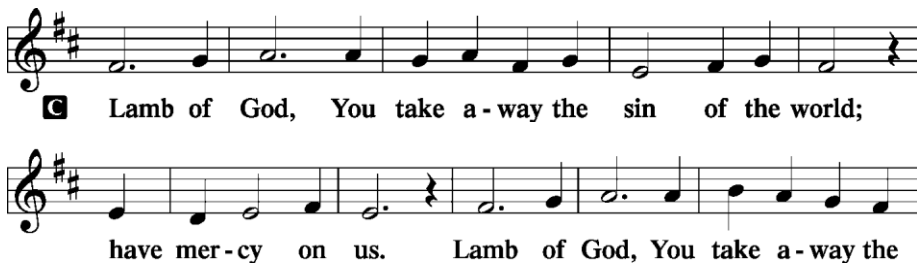
P *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

❖ 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.

❖ AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God*



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



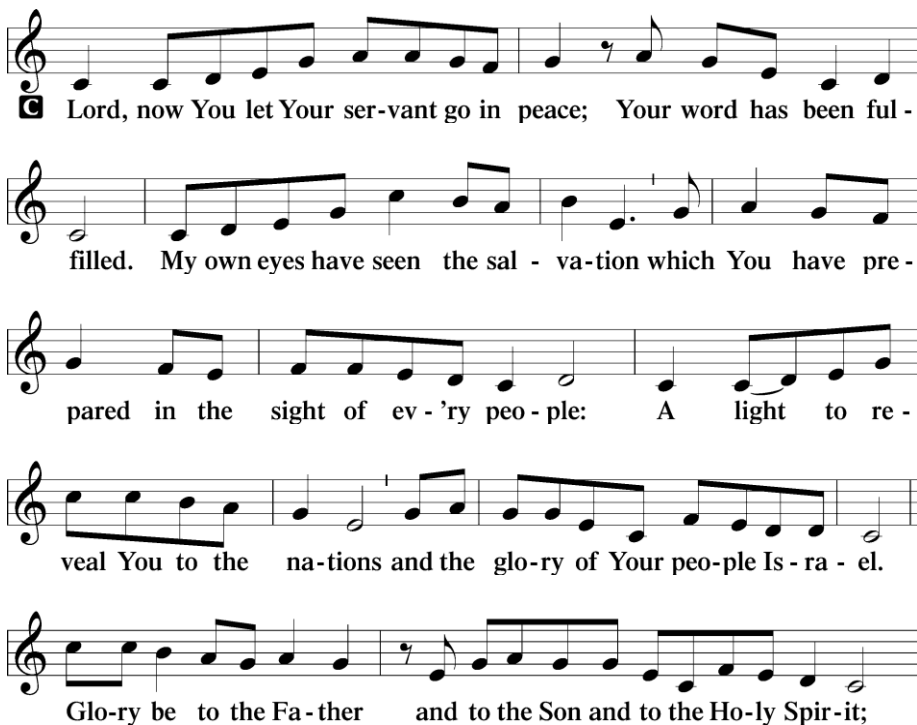
sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Once He Came In Blessing" LSB 333

"When All the World Was Cursed" LSB 346

❖ NUNC DIMITTIS *Song of Simeon*



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
 veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

❖ CLOSING PRAYER

A *Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

❖ BENEDICTION

P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.*



A - men

+ *Please stand and face the cross during the recession from the altar.* +

❖ **HYMN** "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" LSB 515

❖ DISMISSAL

A *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE "Toccata on "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" – Biery