



Third Sunday of Advent

12/17/23

Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting One

GOD GATHERS US AS HIS HOLY PEOPLE.

HYMNS TODAY: LBW #30, LBW #34 AND LBW #25

PRELUDE AND WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

In remembrance of Baptism, you may sign a cross on your chest or forehead.

We gather to worship the One true God – the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (LBW p. 56)

Matthew 28:19; 1 John 1:8-10

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We keep silence for self-reflection and contrition.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage 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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.**

OFFERING OF PEACE (LBW p. 66)

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

John 20:19-21

As God has given us peace by the forgiveness of our sins, so let us forgive and share his peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Please, remain standing as you are able for the hymn.

GATHERING HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” LBW Hymn #30

AFFIRMATION OF PURPOSE *Matthew 28:18-20, 22:36-39; Mark 12:30-31*

We are Joy Mission Church, missionary-disciples of Jesus Christ.

We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus’ name.

APOSTOLIC GREETING (LBW p. 57)

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE (“Lord, have mercy...” LBW pp. 57-58)

Matthew 9:27, 15:22; Psalm 51:1

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

G 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.

G 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. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **G** A - men

SALUTATION (LBW p. 62)

Ruth 2:4

A The Lord be with you. **G** And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. **Lord Jesus Christ, give ear to our prayers, and 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. Amen**

Please be seated.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion — to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. 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. ⁸“For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul 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 like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126 - *Sung responsively with the cantor. (Psalm tone 2)*

¹When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion,*

then were we like | those who dream.

²**Then was our mouth | filled with laughter,*
and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

³Then they said a- | mong the nations,*

“The Lord has done great | things for them.”

⁴**The Lord has done great | things for us,*
and we are | glad indeed.**

⁵Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord,*

like the watercourses | of the Negev.

⁶**Those who | sowed with tears*
will reap with | songs of joy.**

⁷Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,*

will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil. ²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

VERSE (LBW p. 62) John 6:68

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL ANNUNCIATION (LBW p. 63)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to 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.” ²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL RESPONSE (LBW p. 63)

Praise to you, O Christ.
Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING - *Remain seated to sing together.*

"The Candle of Hope" *VERSE 3 ONLY.*

1. The can - dle of hope we light in this hour
2. The can - dle of peace shines bright with God's plan;
3. The can - dle of joy re - minds us to sing,
4. The can - dle of love tells what we are worth:
5. The Christ can - dle's light that shines for us here

Pro - claims that the Lord is com - ing in pow - er.
The wolf will lie down and dwell with - the lamb.
For God is at work to do a - new thing.
God loves us so much, He came to - the earth!
Tells out the good news that God has - come near!

We wait for a fu - ture, now hid - den from view,
Our hate and our wea - pons, our an - ger and war,
The proud will be hum - bled; the low - ly will rise.
An an - gel brought news of a child who would be
God came, a poor ba - by, in one time and place.

When Christ in His glo - ry will make all things new.
Will give way to gar - dens that heal and re - store.
God's king - dom is one of de - light and sur - prise.
The One who would save us and set us all free.
To show all cre - a - tion the wealth of God's grace.

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Tune: William Croft, 1678-1777*

HANOVER
10 10 11 11

SERMON

Following the sermon, we observe a time of extended silence to contemplate God's Word.

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND IN FAITH.

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: “**Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel**” LBW Hymn #34

NICENE CREED (LBW p. 64)

Genesis 1-2; John 3:16; Luke 2; Acts 2

Living together in the trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people as they have need... *Each petition ends with these words: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.*

The prayers conclude with these words: ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

OFFERING OF TITHES, ADDITIONAL GIFTS, & SPECIAL MUSIC as available

We offer our time, talents, and treasures in gratitude for all of the blessings God has given us.

Please stand as you are able.

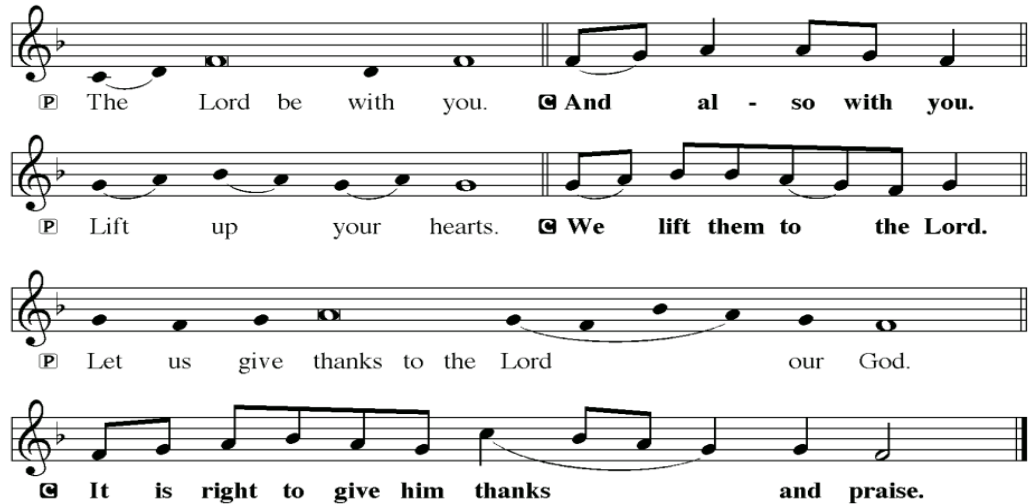
OFFERTORY HYMN “**Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**” LBW #565

OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 67)

Let us pray...

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 68)



Ⓐ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

Ⓐ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE (LBW p. 68) *Sung or spoken by the pastor.*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS (“Holy” LBW p. 69)

Psalm 118:25-26; Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (LBW p. 70)

1 Cor. 11:23-26; Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 71)

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...

**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.

Please remain standing as you are able.

COMMUNION HYMN ("Lamb of God..." LBW p. 72)

John 1:29

☞ 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 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

GOD GIVES US HIMSELF IN HIS HOLY MEAL.

All who are baptized and trust that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine may come forward to commune. The usher will direct you and offer hand sanitizer if you so desire.

- *If you require gluten-free wafers or abstain from wine, indicate so to the pastor.*
- *To receive the Sacrament in your seat, notify the usher and it will be brought to you.*
- *If you abstain from the Sacrament, you have full forgiveness of sins by God's Word alone.*

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

After the elements are covered, please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & CANTICLE (LBW pp. 73)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.



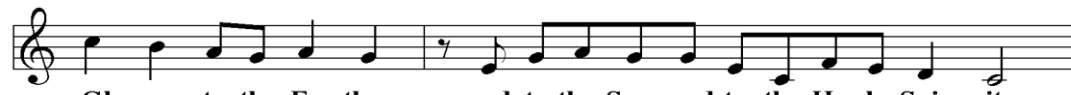
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the



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 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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER & BENEDICTION (LBW p. 74)

Let us pray...Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. **A - men**

GOD SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE.

SENDING HYMN: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers” LBW Hymn #25

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

As a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church we strive to be:

Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, & Congregationally Focused.

Ministers: Joy Mission Church and all the people of God

Pastor: Rev. Paulette McHugh

Parish Administrator: Scheri Force

Pianist: Lavenia Hentz

Volunteer Director of Music: Laurie Lackey

www.joymission.church



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