

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A PLACE OF GRACE WITH A CALL FOR ALL

Jeffery Alvestad, Pastor
Sherrie Kincaid, Office & Communications Manager
Kevin Cooper, Property & Maintenance Manager
Susan Hires, Director of Music
David Cason, Organist



A Reconciling in Christ Congregation



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Second Sunday of Advent, December 5, 2021



Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Christ as forerunner of the LORD of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of Jesus and assist all people in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

Assisting Minister: Ryan Devlin; Lector: Janet Ross; Crucifer: Ashley Mock;
Acolyte: Finn Nicholas; Usher: Wally Brockhoff, David Schwabauer, Cathy Box;
Children's Sermon: Steve Ozark; Altar Care: Carol Ann Salber; Audio/Video: Darrah Buren

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PRELUDE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 264

Prepare the Royal Highway

- 1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!

- 2 God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! *Refrain*

- 3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: *Refrain*

- 4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THE LIGHTING OF THE 2nd ADVENT WREATH CANDLE

P: Blessed are you, O'Lord, our God ruler of the universe.
John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way
For the kingdom of heaven is near.

Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath.

Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit,
that we may be a light shining in the darkness
welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us,
for he is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

C: O people of hope, come, let us rejoice in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel ELW 257

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in its ways to go.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE ELW p. 139

A: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm Luke 1:68-79

(First time through, organ; second time through, cantor; third time through, congregation).

Refrain:

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God
the dawn from on high will break up - on us.

Luke 1:78

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Tone:

Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.

⁶⁹You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,
born of the house of your | servant David. R

⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,

⁷¹from the hands of | all who hate us,

⁷²to show mercy | to our forebears,
and to remember your | holy covenant.

⁷³**This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:**
⁷⁴**to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,**
 free to worship you | without fear,
⁷⁵holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life. R
⁷⁶**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,**
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,
⁷⁷to give God's people knowledge | of salvation
 by the forgiveness | of their sins.
⁷⁸**In the tender compassion | of our God**
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,
 and to guide our feet into the | way of peace. R

Second Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

P: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW p.142

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to You, O Christ**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 249

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!
- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.
- 3 We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.
- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.
- 5 All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

APOSTLE'S 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always!

C: And also with you!

MEAL

OFFERING

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OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING ELW 144

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD...” ELW 144

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of pow’r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER ELW 145

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

You may commune where you are seated with the elements you brought with you, or you may come forward from the center aisle and Pastor will place, in your open hand, a gluten-free wafer which you may then dip into the chalice of wine held by the Assisting Minister. After you have dipped the bread into the chalice of wine, you may return to your seat by the side aisle.

CHORALE ANTHEM

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

setting by Austin Lovelace

LAMB OF GOD ELW 146

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

A: POST COMMUNION PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

- 1 Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding!
"Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness,
all you children of the day!"
- 2 Wakened by the solemn warning,
from earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See the Lamb, so long expected,
come with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all, to be forgiv'n;
- 4 So, when next he comes in glory
and the world is wrapped in fear,
he will shield us with his mercy
and with words of love draw near.
- 5 Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son
with the everlasting Spirit
while unending ages run!

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878

DISMISSAL ELW p.146

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Praetorius

Next Week's Readings and Psalm

Third Sunday of Advent, December 12, 2021

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

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