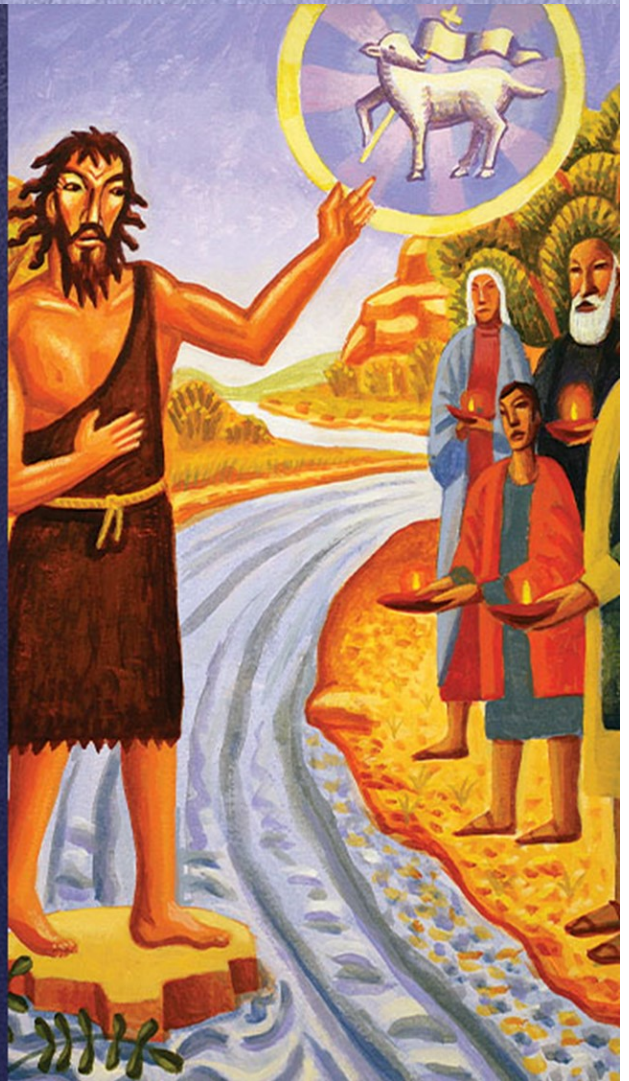


He will baptize
you with the
Holy Spirit
and fire

LUKE 3:16





The Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 11, 2021 - 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 12, 2021—8:00 am

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

PRELUDE *"The Song Was With God Light Shines In The Darkness"* Jubilation

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIRD SUNDAY - *The Wonder of the Message*

Candle Lighting

Today we light three candles. The **first candle** calls us to behold the wonder of the season in a fresh way. In a world where too often the familiar becomes commonplace, Advent is a time to ponder the mystery of God's amazing love. The **second candle** invites us to hear again the ancient prophecies that, like flames in the darkness, illuminate our world, inspire our faith, and guide our journey. As we light the **third candle**, we affirm that Advent is a time to hear again the still small voice calling us to behold God's promise, and embrace the gift of a Savior who is Christ our Lord.

Responsive Litany

During Advent we listen for the wonder of God's Word.

Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

During Advent we reach beyond the noise and distractions of this world.

Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

During Advent we ponder the good news that is our great joy.

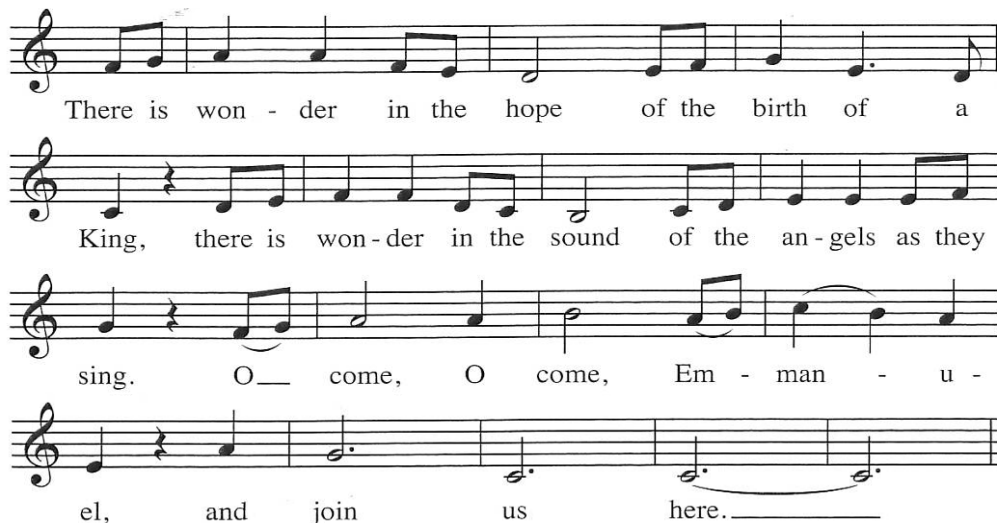
Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

During Advent we speak words of hope to those engaged in life's struggles.

Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

During Advent we offer words of peace to those overcome by life's fears.

Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God for whom we wait,

in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love.

Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

Amen.

ANTHEM

“Come, Emmanuel”

Jubilation

GREETING

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.

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.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

A reading from Zephaniah.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

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

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,

he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame

and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.
³**With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**
⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name is exalted.
⁵**Sing 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 READING: Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from Philippians.

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *"Help Us O Lord"*

Jubilation

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

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. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor

and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, — give

3 thanks to the Ho - ly One, — Give thanks — be-cause He's

6 giv-en — Je - sus Christ, His — Son. Give

9 thanks with a grate - ful heart, — give thanks to the

12 Ho - ly One, — Give thanks — be-cause He's giv-en — Je - sus

15 Christ, His — Son. And

(Continued on the next page.)

CHORUS

17 Am7 Dm7 Gm7

now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the

20 C7 F/C C7 F2 F F/E Dm7 C/D Dm7

poor say "I am rich" be-cause of what the Lord has

23 Eb2 Eb Gm7/C C C/Bb Am7

done for us." And now let the

26 Dm7 Gm7 C7 F/C C7

weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say "I am

29 F2 F F/E Dm7 C/D Dm7 Eb2 Eb

rich" be-cause of what the Lord has done for

32 ending D.S. Song ending

Gm7/C C7 Gm7/C C Bb/C F C/F

us." Give us." Give thanks,

35 Bb2/F F

give thanks.

NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

Each prayer petition will conclude, "Lord, in your mercy,"

The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

We give thanks to God for the gifts that God provides, and for the gifts that you share with the church. Offerings to the church in these days may be placed in the box at the entrance or sent through the mail, through automatic withdraw, or through the Tithe.ly app on our website.

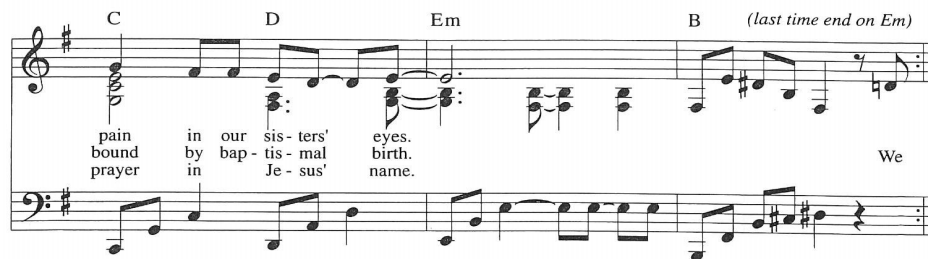
OFFERING SONG

"Help Us Oh Lord"

Verses 1 and 3

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 108. The score is divided into three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and includes the lyrics: 'Help us, oh Lord, to do what is right and wise. Teach us to live your king - dom come here on earth. of - fer in joy what you first to us gave:'. The second system includes the lyrics: 'Help us to see our bro - thers' needs that are in dis - guise. O - pen our lives our time, to treat each per - son with e - qual worth. Our - selves, our time, the ver - y things that our hands have made.'. The third system includes the lyrics: 'Re - mind us we're fam - i - ly; we're Re - ceive them all now, this is our'. The score includes various musical notations such as chords (Em, C, D, Am, B7), rests, and dynamic markings.

(Continued on the next page.)



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OFFERING PRAYER

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. 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 to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name:

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At the end of the ages your Son, Jesus, came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who hunger and thirst, come! The table is ready.

COMMUNION SONG

“Lamb of God”

♩ = 100 E♭ (D) (guitar: capo 1) B♭m/G (Am/F♯) A♭ (G)

Lamb of God,
Bread of Life,
Prince of Peace,
Lamb of God,

E♭/G (D/F♯) A♭Maj7 (GMaj7) Gm7 (F♯m7)

you take a - way the sin of the

1, 2, 3 C7 (B7) E♭ (D) F (E) F7 (E7) B♭7 (A7)

world: have mer - cy on us.

4 C7 (B7) E♭ (D) F (E) F7 (E7) B♭7 (A7) E♭ (D)

world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing.

Those worshiping with us at home may use their own bread and wine or juice for communion. On site, communion will be received at your seats. Having received the elements as you entered worship, you will take the chalice, and when directed by the pastor, you will remove the bottom cover to receive the bread. The pastor will say "Body of Christ given for you," and you will eat the bread. When directed by the pastor, you will remove the top cover to receive the wine or juice. The pastor will say, "Blood of Christ shed for you," and you will drink the wine or juice.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

Amen.

BLESSING

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Messiah"

Someone's shouting from the des - ert. Someone's shouting from the sea.
Someone's shouting from the cit - y. I am young, I am cold.
Someone's shouting I am brok - en. Someone's shouting make me whole.

Someone's shouting from the mountain. Someone's shouting from the val - ley. Mes -
Someone's shouting from the country. I am lone - ly, I am old.
Someone's shouting come and change me. Someone's shouting save my soul.

si ah, come and be our King.

Mes - si ah, come and be our King.

King.

DISMISSAL

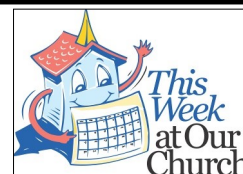
Go in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Michelle Weltzin-Trainor	Eugene Kreiter	Melissa Alden
Ron McFate	Carol Judge	Sue Vogel
Nancy Meyer	Ed Stoltz	Andrew Arp
Karen Rathjen	Jan Kluever	Jan Carlson
H.O. Nelson	Pat Hoffman	Craig
Norm Harvey	June Dierks	Lois
Sheila Baustian	Michael Schafer	Carolyn
Sally Puls	Karen Muetzel	John
Duane Miller	Peyton Langebartles	Mary
Tim Winter	Sherri Westmeier	Bonnie
Jensen Spencer	Meyer Mixdorf	Dorie
Ann Kuehl	Bob Morehead	Clif
	Patty Mixdorf	Kelly

THIS WEEK AT FAITH



Saturday, December 11 th	<i>Youth Cinnamon Roll Sale</i> 5pm	Jubilation Worship
Sunday, December 12 th	<i>Youth Cinnamon Roll Sale</i> 8am 9:15 am 10:30am	Jubilation Worship Sunday School Worship
Monday, December 13 th	5:30pm	Lion's Club (FH)
Tuesday, December 14 th	1pm 5:30pm	Bible Study Food Pantry
Wednesday, December 15 th	5pm 5:30pm 6:15pm 7pm 7:15pm	Confirmation Meal Confirmation Conversations People of Praise High School Youth Resounding Joy!
Thursday, December 16 th	6:30pm	Church Council (Zoom)
Friday, December 17 th	Noon-3pm	Food Pantry Christmas Basket Distribution
Saturday, December 18 th	9am—11am 5pm	Food Pantry Christmas Basket Distribution Worship
Sunday, December 19 th	8am 9:15 am 10:30am	Worship Sunday School (Adult Class Only) Worship

Announcements



Cinnamon Roll Sunday

Youth who will be attending the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis will be making and selling cinnamon rolls the weekend of December 11 and 12 to help raise funds for their trip. You can purchase these delicious rolls in person around worship December 11 and 12, or pre-order by signing up online (link found on our website and on Facebook) or on the sheet in the gathering space. Cost is \$1/roll, \$5/6 rolls, and \$10/dozen. Along with baked rolls, we will have the option to purchase unbaked rolls by the dozen. Thank you for supporting our youth!



IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN—Time for snow removal volunteers.

If you are able to help us clear sidewalks after a snowfall, please sign up using the sign up sheet in the gathering area or online. Additional information can be found on the sign up sheet or on our web page. The sign up link is <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094EABA62CAAF85-snow1>

Thank you for your help!



Give something unexpected this Christmas! The Service in the World Committee is asking for your support of this year's Christmas Project through the ELCA Good Gifts program. In Christ, we receive the gift of God's love. Let us share God's love with others.

ELCA Good Gifts are a fun, meaningful way to honor friends and family with Christmas gifts that go on to make a difference in the world. Choose from more than 50 gift-giving options (goats, anyone?), each with the ability to make real, lasting change in the life of someone in need. Give in honor of someone special, and you can give them a card to let them know.

The animals of God's Global Barnyard are among some of the most popular gifts in the catalog. Your gifts to God's Global Barnyard support the sustainable development ministries of ELCA World Hunger, which include training, education, resources (and much more) to help the community care for animals and create new market opportunities like starting a small business selling eggs, meat or dairy products. Your gifts support this comprehensive approach to animal husbandry. Good Gifts also has gifts that make a difference in the lives of people around the world, such as bibles, vaccinations, school supplies, school uniforms, water filters, backpack food programs, and more!

Giving is easy! Visit the "Giving Tree" in the gathering area during Advent. Select an ornament with a symbol of the item you wish to purchase, place it on the tree and place your donation in the drop box. Select a cards to let friends and loved ones know about ELCA Good Gifts that have been given in their honor. That's it! No crowds to fight, no shortages to contend with, and no delivery worries!

Thank you for your generosity during the holidays to help abate world hunger!

