

Third Sunday in Advent

December 12, 2021

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Fargo, North Dakota

Pre-Service Music / Welcome

Opening Hymn *“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”* **LSB 345**

Invocation, Confession, Absolution **LSB 184-185**

Introit

Psalm 146: 5-8; Antiphon: Philippians 4:4

P: Rejoice in the Lord always;

C: again I will say, Rejoice.

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

C: whose hope is in the Lord his God,

P: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

C: who keeps faith forever;

P: who executes justice for the oppressed,

C: who gives food to the hungry.

P: The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

C: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

Gloria Patri, Kyrie (*sung*) **LSB 186**

Salutation and Collect of the Day (*LSB 189*)

P: ♪ The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with thy spirit.

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.

Old Testament Reading *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

R: The Old Testament reading for the Third Sunday in Advent is from Zephaniah, chapter three.

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.

Special Music *"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry," arr. by Hal H. Hopson*

Epistle Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

R: The Epistle reading is from Philippians, chapter four.

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

(LSB 190)



Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18-35

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

C: ♪ Glory be to Thee, 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.” (When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.)

“To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.’

For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C:♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Creed (8:15) **Apostles’ Creed; (11) Nicene Creed** [LSB inside back cover]

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” **LSB 849**

Sermon “Joy in the Midst of Our Tears” **Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Offertory (sung) **LSB 192-193**

Offering (Please *sign and pass* the green Fellowship book found at the center end of each pew.)

(11) Presentation of Quilts

Prayer of the Church

Service Without Holy Communion – 8:15 am

Hymn *“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”* **LSB 352**

The Lord’s Prayer, Collect, Benediction

Announcements

Closing Hymn *“Joy to the World”* **LSB 387**

Service of the Sacrament – 11 am

(Guests and Visitors please refer to our guideline in preparation for Holy Communion printed on the inside of the bulletin cover.)

Communion Liturgy **LSB 194ff**

Distribution Hymns

“The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” **LSB 624**

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord” **LSB 352**

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng” **LSB 813**

Post-Communion Liturgy **LSB 199ff**

Announcements

Closing Hymn *“Joy to the World”* **LSB 387**

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