

*Third Sunday in Advent*  
*December 12, 2021 7:30 am*



[https://d279m997dptwgl.cloudfront.net/wp/2014/07/0704\\_No-Gifts-Cog.jpg](https://d279m997dptwgl.cloudfront.net/wp/2014/07/0704_No-Gifts-Cog.jpg)

**PRESERVICE MUSIC** “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” (Bach)

**A Reminder: Please be respectful to our brothers and sisters who use the time prior to worship for quiet meditation on God's Word. - Thank you!**

**737 REJOICE, MY HEART, BE GLAD AND SING**

- 1 Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing,  
A cheerful trust maintain;  
For God, the source of ev’rything,  
Your portion shall remain.
- 2 He is your treasure, He your joy,  
Your life and light and Lord,  
Your counselor when doubts annoy,  
Your shield and great reward.
- 3 Why spend the day in blank despair,  
In restless thought the night?  
On your Creator cast your care;  
He makes your burdens light.
- 4 Did not His love and truth and pow’r  
Guard ev’ry childhood day?  
And did He not in threat’ning hour  
Turn dreaded ills away?
- 5 He only will with patience chide,  
His rod falls gently down;  
And all your sins He casts aside  
In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain  
Nor falters nor mistakes.  
All that His counsels may ordain  
A blessed ending makes.
- 7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,  
And trust His guiding love;  
Then like a rock your peace shall stand  
Here and in heav’n above.

**MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH**

God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him.    *1 John 4:9*

**INVOCATION**

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

**C** Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCES**

*Zephaniah 3:14a, 15b; 16b–17, 20*

**P** Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart.

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

**P** “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.

**C** **The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save;**

**P** He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love;

**C** **He will exult over you with loud singing.**

**P** 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.

**C** **We worship You, O Lord!**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Three Advent candles are lit.*

**P** Let us pray. O Lord, let the lighting of these candles signify that You are the light that shines in all the darkness of our lives. As we wait, watch, hope, and pray, guide us all to reflect Your light and let it shine; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Psalm 25:6–7*

**P** Having emerged from the waters of Baptism as God’s new creation in Christ, we confess our sins to God and one another.

*A time of silence is observed.*

**P** We confess to You, O Lord, that we are captive to sin in thought, word, and deed. We have wandered from You. Our wonderings have at times turned into doubts that drew us away from You.

**C** **Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

**P** Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

**C** **according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

**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.

**C** **Amen.**

## INTROIT

*Psalm 146:5–8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

**C** **Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

**P** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

**C** **who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.**

**P** The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

**C** **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.**

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

## HYMN OF THE MONTH - 345 HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING

*Stanza two develops the themes of day and night, light and darkness, and makes it clear that the “earth-bound soul” is enabled to rise only because of Jesus. The third stanza refers more specifically to the message of John the Baptist that the one coming after him is the Lamb of God, who offers repentant sinners pardon and forgiveness (John 1:29).*

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 Startled at the solemn warning, Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes 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, dominion To the Father and the Son  
With the ever-living Spirit While eternal ages run!

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ,

**C** we implore You to hear our prayers

**P** and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation;

**C** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Zephaniah 3:14–20*

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>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.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Philippians 4:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 7:18–28*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>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?" <sup>20</sup>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?" <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." <sup>24</sup>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? <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" <sup>28</sup>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.

**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### 347 COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

- 1 "Comfort, comfort ye My people,  
Speak ye peace," thus saith our God;  
"Comfort those who sit in darkness,  
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem  
Of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell her that her sins I cover  
And her warfare now is over."
- 2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,  
Blotting out each dark misdeed;  
All that well deserved His anger  
He no more will see or heed.  
She hath suffered many\_a day,  
Now her griefs have passed away;  
God will change her pining sadness  
Into ever-springing gladness.
- 3 Hark, the herald's voice is crying  
In the desert far and near,  
Calling sinners to repentance,  
Since the Kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise to meet Him  
And the hills bow down to greet Him.
- 4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;  
Make the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
As befits His holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,  
And all flesh shall see the token  
That His Word is never broken.

**SERMON**    “The Party Poopers”    Zephaniah 3:14-20

**CREED**    Nicene Creed    *(Creed can be found in the back of the hymnal and on the screens)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition, please respond with the following:*

**P**    We pray,

**C**    **hear us, coming Lord.**

*At the end of the prayer:*

**C**    **Amen.**

## + SACRAMENT +

### PREFACE

**P**    The Lord be with you.

**C**    **And also 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.**

### PROPER PREFACE

**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, who alone fills our hearts with joy both in good times and bad times. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### SANCTUS

*LSB 208*

**C**    Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### LORD’S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI

**P**    The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C**    **Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI

*LSB 210*

**C**    1    O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

***For guests and visitors, we invite you to please read our statement  
regarding the Lord's Supper on the inside cover of your bulletin.***

## **+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +**

### **636 SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS**

*sts. 1, 5, 7*

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,  
Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
Come into the daylight's splendor,  
There with joy your praises render.  
Bless the One whose grace unbounded  
This amazing banquet founded;  
He, though heav'nly, high, and holy,  
Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,  
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
Peace beyond all understanding,  
Joy into all life expanding:  
Humbly now, I bow before You;  
Love incarnate, I adore You;  
Worthily let me receive You  
And, so favored, never leave You.
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,  
You once left Your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish  
And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness  
And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living,  
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

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### **803 JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE**

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

△ 3 Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountainhead of love divine:  
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray. We rejoice, O Lord, and thank You that in Christ's body and blood we now receive forgiveness of our sins, life rooted in Christ, and salvation both now and forever; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

*Philippians 4:5–7; Numbers 6:24–26*

**P** 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.

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.

**C** Amen.

## 813 REJOICE, O PILGRIM THROG

*sts. 1, ref, 3, 6–7*

1 Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your king. **Refrain**

**Refrain** Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

3 With all the angel choirs,  
With all the saints on earth  
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
True rapture, noblest mirth. **Refrain**

6 At last the march shall end;  
The wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their home at last,  
Jerusalem the blest. **Refrain**

△ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high,  
The Lord whom we adore:  
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
One God forevermore. **Refrain**

## POSTLUDE “Joy to the World” (arr. Gehrke)

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

**Invocation** In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Introit** (found on front page)

**Catechism Review** (found on front page)

**Meditation:** Portals of Prayer, [www.lhm.org/dailydevotions](http://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions), Other

## ***Daily Scripture Readings***

Sunday: Isaiah 29:1-14; Jude 1-25  
Monday: Isaiah 29:15-30:14; Revelation 1:1-20  
Tuesday: Isaiah 30:15-26; Revelation 2:1-29  
Wednesday: Isaiah 30:27-31:9; Revelation 3:1-22  
Thursday: Isaiah 32:1-20; Revelation 4:1-11  
Friday: Isaiah 33:1-24; Revelation 5:1-14  
Saturday: Isaiah 34:1-2, 8-35:10; Revelation 6:1-17

## ***In Our Prayers This Week*** (as of Thursday morning)

Nichole, recovering from Covid	Carrie, healing from a stroke
Eunice, health issues	Linda, brain cancer
Wes, health issues	Mary, Jan's sister-in-law, cancer
Del, health issues	Voss, infant recovering from an accident
Jack, ongoing health issues	Elgart, cancer
Chris, ongoing health issues	Lauren's mother
Mehria in the Middle East, safety	Shirley, health issues
Blake	Nancy, health issues
Al, health issues	Berklee
Jim, cancer	Jim, Parkinson's
Tom, cancer	Steve, Guillain-Barre Syndrome
Jean, health issues	Duane, cancer
Jerry, health issues	Dave, health issues
June, health issues	Larry, recovery
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues	

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, and those whose employment is in question.  
For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our world.  
Christians and all people living in terror in the Middle East and throughout the world.

**Our Savior Families:** Jay & Marianne, Pat, Thomas & Kathleen, Ashley & Family, Larry & Mary

**Hymn of the Week** "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People" LSB 347

**Collect** (found on front page)

**Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction**