

*Third Sunday in Advent*  
*December 11, 2022*  
*7:30 AM*



<https://www.soflostudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/DSC09296-2.jpg>

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**    December 11, 2022 7:30 am  
**WHEN YOUR PRISON CELL NEEDS CURTAINS**

**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**

**515 REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS**

- 1    Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
      And let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing,  
      And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising  
      And soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
      At midnight comes the cry.
- 2    The watchers on the mountain  
      Proclaim the Bridegroom near;  
Go forth as He approaches  
      With alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
      The gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
      The Bridegroom is at hand.
- 3    The saints, who here in patience  
      Their cross and suff'rings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever  
      When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
      The Lamb they shall behold;  
In triumph cast before Him  
      Their diadems of gold.
- 4    Our hope and expectation,  
      O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, O Sun so longed for,  
      O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
      We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption  
      That sets Your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.  
Text: Public domain

**MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.    *John 3:16*

## INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

**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 71:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

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

I will hope continually

and will praise you yet more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,  
for their number is past my knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;

I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have taught me,

and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

**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.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;

again I will say, Rejoice.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**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

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;  
<sup>2</sup>it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.  
<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. <sup>4</sup>Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
“Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come  
and save you.” <sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
<sup>6</sup>then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in  
the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground  
springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. <sup>8</sup>And  
a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall  
belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. <sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.  
<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their  
heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*James 5:7–11*

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of  
the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish  
your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you  
may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience,  
brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who  
remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord,  
how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 11:2–15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

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

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are  
you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what  
you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and  
the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not  
offended by me.” <sup>7</sup>As they went away, 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>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man  
dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out  
to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</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>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those  
born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom  
of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered  
violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you  
are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### 349 HARK THE GLAD SOUND

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior promised long;  
Let ev’ry heart prepare a throne And ev’ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris’ners to release, In Satan’s bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst, The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace To enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav’n’s eternal arches ring With Thy beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51

Text: Public domain

**SERMON** “When Your Prison Cell Needs Curtains” Matthew 11:2–15

**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** let us pray to the Lord,

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

*At the end of the prayer:*

**C** **Amen.**

## + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

### PREFACE

LSB 160

**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.**

**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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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 161

**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 OUR LORD

## LORD'S PRAYER

### PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

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

**G** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

**G** 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.

## + DISTRIBUTION +

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

### 636 SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS

sts. 1–2, 7–8

- 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.
- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet Him,  
And with loving rev'rence greet Him.  
For with words of life immortal  
He is knocking at your portal.  
Open wide the gates before Him,  
Saying, as you there adore Him:  
Grant, Lord, that I now receive You,  
That I nevermore will 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.

8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,  
Let me gladly here obey You.  
By Your love I am invited,  
Be Your love with love requited;  
By this Supper let me measure,  
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gift of grace You give me  
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; (st. 1): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2, 7–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text (st. 1): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005575

Text (sts. 2, 7–8): Public domain

## 632 O JESUS, BLESSED LORD, TO THEE

1 O Jesus, blessèd Lord, to Thee  
My heartfelt thanks forever be,  
Who hast so lovingly bestowed  
On me Thy body and Thy blood.

2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:  
What wealth is come to me this day!  
My Savior dwells within my heart:  
How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928

Text: Public domain

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

*LSB 166*

**P** 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.

**G** Amen.

## 849 PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,  
Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands  
With the very Bread of peace.

- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005575

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

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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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 28:14-29; 1 John 5:1-21  
Monday: Isaiah 29:1-14; Jude 1-25  
Tuesday: Isaiah 29:15-30:14; Revelation 1:1-20  
Wednesday: Isaiah 30:15-26; Revelation 2:1-29  
Thursday: Isaiah 30:27-31:9; Revelation 3:1-22  
Friday: Isaiah 32:1-20; Revelation 4:1-11  
Saturday: Isaiah 33:1-24; Revelation 5:1-14

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

Herb, health issues	William, a child with leukemia
Kathy, cancer	Mary, Jan's sister-in-law, cancer
Diane, recovery	Pierce, an infant with leukemia
Jack, ongoing health issues	Georgia, recovery
Lauren's mother, Phyllis	Margo, health issues
Shirley, health issues	Duane, cancer
Kent, recovery	Blake
Georgia, recovery	Dave, health issues
Jim, cancer	Jim, Parkinson's
Tom, cancer	Steve, Guillain-Barre Syndrome
Aimee, healing and strength	Marlys
Mike's mother - Jean, health issues	Lauren, cancer
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues	
For the family of Ezra, a 3-month old who died of SIDS	
For those affected by Hurricane Ian.	
For those who mourn the evil in our world, that God's comfort and peace may point them to the hope of the resurrection.	
For those with hearts where evil dwells, that God's kingdom would come and rule over their life.	
For our nation, that God would bring about repentance through His Word that He may heal our land.	

**Our Savior Families:** Jake & Family, Nancy, Karla, Ryan & Family, Brian

**Hymn of the Week** "Hark the Glad Sound" LSB 349

**Collect** (found on front page)

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