

Midweek Advent 3

December 18, 2019

7:00p

Responsive Prayer 2 p. 285

Sermon Theme: “Location, Location, Location! Surrounded by the Father’s Love”

Text: Matthew 11:2-6

The Hymnody

Opening Hymn.....	LSB 351
Sermon Hymn.....	LSB 384
Closing Hymn.....	LSB 342

Psalm 43:1-5

- P** Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!
- C** **For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you rejected me?**
- P** Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
- C** **Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!**
- P** Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.
- C** **Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?**
- P** Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

Please place your offering in an offering place as you depart.

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: 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. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

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? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. 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.’ 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.”