

Divine Service, Setting Three

The Third Sunday in Advent

15 December 2024

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

BAPTISM HYMN: ♪ "DEAREST JESUS, WE ARE HERE"

LSB 592 V.1-4

- 1 Dearest Jesus, we are here,
Gladly Your command obeying;
With this child we now draw near
In response to Your own saying
That to You it shall be given
As a child and heir of heaven.

- 2 Your command is clear and plain,
And we would obey it duly:
"You must all be born again,
Heart and life renewing truly,
Born of water and the Spirit,
And My kingdom thus inherit."

- 3 Therefore we have come to You,
In our arms this infant bearing.
Truly here Your grace we view;
May this child, Your mercy sharing,
In Your arms be shielded ever,
Yours on earth and Yours forever.

- 4 Gracious Head, Your member own;
Shepherd, take Your lamb and feed it;
Prince of Peace, make here Your throne;
Way of Life, to heaven lead it;
Precious Vine, let nothing sever
From Your side this branch forever.

We will use the order of baptism on page 268 of the hymnal

**5 Now into Your heart we pour
Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.
Our petitions heav'nward soar;
May our hearts' desires be heeded!
Write the name we now have given;
Write it in the book of heaven!**

Text: Public domain

Stand

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. 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.

GLORIA PATRI

G♪ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

KYRIE

G♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- G**♪ **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.

GJ Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ZEPHANIAH 3:14–20

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

EPISTLE

PHILIPPIANS 4:4–7

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

GJ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 7:18–28

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

GJ 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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C *J* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

CATECHETICAL VERSE TO KNOW BY HEART

The Fifth Commandment

C **You shall not murder.**

What does this mean?

C **We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.**

Sit

SERMON HYMN: *J*“JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE”

LSB 803

**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!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt. Text: Public domain

SERMON: "SING AND SHOUT"

ZEPHANIAH 3:14–20

By Pastor John Schmidt

Stand

☞ The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

☞ Amen.

OFFERTORY

☞ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN:

♪ "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN"

LSB 781 V.1 & 2

1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

G It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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

G Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

G For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

AGNUS DEI

G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪ "HARK THE GLAD SOUND"

LSB 349

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 belovèd name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51 Text: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪"COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE"

LSB 347

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.**

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪“SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF WITH GLADNESS”

LSB 636


- 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'ence 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.**
- 3 He who craves a precious treasure
Neither cost nor pain will measure;
But the priceless gifts of heaven
God to us has freely given.
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,
None could buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven,
And His blood, for you once given.**
- 4 Now in faith I humbly ponder
Over this surpassing wonder
That the bread of life is boundless
Though the souls it feeds are countless:
With the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
Pledge and seal of my salvation!**

- 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.
- 6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
 Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
 Jesus, joy of my desiring,
 Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
 At Your feet I cry, my maker,
 Let me be a fit partaker
 Of this blessed food from heaven,
 For our good, Your glory, given.
- 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; (sts. 1, 4–5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2–3, 6–8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text (sts. 1, 4–5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005097 Text (sts. 2–3, 6–8): Public domain

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

 Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

 O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
 and His mercy endureth forever.

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.**

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.

G **And with thy spirit.**

P Bless we the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

G **Amen, amen, amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: ♪ "IN THEE IS GLADNESS"

LSB 818

**1 In Thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given
The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest,
Our bonds Thou breakest;
Who trusts Thee surely
Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining,
Dying or living
To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!**

**2 Since He is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him
And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!**

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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