

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Advent- Sunday, December 16, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Confession & Forgiveness

— Please stand as able —

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, [☩] one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us come before God in confession.

—A brief silence—

P: To you, O God,

C: **we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P: Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of [☩] Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Song

ELW 264

— Please remain standing —

Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound-ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Greeting

P: May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

ELW 533, Verses 1 & 2

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God. I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

The remaining lessons appointed for use on this Sunday are located in the announcements of this worship booklet. You are invited to read them during the collection of offerings or Communion. You are also invited to take this booklet home with you and read the lessons and prayers as part of family worship or individual devotions.

First Reading

L: A reading from Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
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: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward to join the Pastor at the Chancel for a message.

ELW 240, verse 3

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Gospel Acclamation ELW 533, verse 5 — Please stand as able—

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 3 [7-18]

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors

came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

— Please be seated —

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Prayers of the People

LD: As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

—A brief silence—

LD: For the hurting places in creation; for seas and lands ravaged by natural disasters; for communities and creatures displaced by floods and droughts. Grant peace through your presence and joy in your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

Y: For peace to ring out in our hearts and in our homes; for mercy and forgiveness to reign in every community; for war to cease and hunger to end. Give us this joy now, Holy One. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

LD: God our protector, we lift before you all those whose work puts them in harm's way for the sake of others, especially first responders and servicewomen and men who are stationed around the world. Allow all people to return home safely and keep them close to you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

Y: For those who are oppressed; for soldiers and veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and their families; for neighbors who have no access to medical care; for those who are ill and those who mourn. We pray especially for those whose names we say out loud or silently.

—A brief silence— Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

LD: We pray for our partners in mission and ministry: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Bishop James Hazelwood and the New England Synod, Pastor Livingstone Msungu and the Isimani congregation in Tanzania, Fundaninos Orphanage in Guatemala, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and our missionaries Revs. Colin and Jeni Grangaard, Immanuel Indonesian Lutheran Congregation, Ascentria Care Alliance and Camp Calumet. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Sharing of God's Peace

P: May the peace of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – which passes all understanding, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to exchange expressions of peace with those near them. Please remember to greet the children too. Please be seated after the Sharing of God's Peace.

MEAL

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward.

Offertory Song

ELW 681, verse 3 & refrain

We Plow the Fields and Scatter



3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank-ful hearts.

Refrain



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt.
Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

Offertory Prayer

LD: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

As you come to the Lord's Table, know that it is Christ who invites you to receive the bread and wine, the body and blood. There will be a single communion station. You will receive a wafer (gluten free wafers are available). Next, you may drink from the common cup, or you may take a pre-filled glass of non-alcoholic wine. Please put the glass in the basket at the end. If you would like to receive communion, but you are unable to come forward, please ask someone to talk to the ushers and we will bring communion to you.

Dialogue

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

—ELW pg. 153—

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major, 2/4 time. The notes are primarily quarter notes and eighth notes. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with each line of text corresponding to a staff. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line. The music features several grace notes and slurs.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Feel free to use the version of the Lord's Prayer you are most comfortable with.

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

Communion

ELW pg 154

— Please be seated —



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

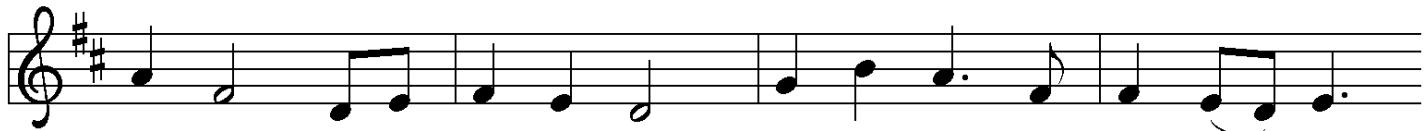


sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

While others are communing, we invite you to sing today's communion hymns or to meditate on the readings and prayers for the day. **Communion Hymn #1: ELW 479**

We Come to the Hungry Feast



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know-ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

*Text: Psalteriolanum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.*

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Gift of Finest Wheat

Refrain

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.

Come give to us, O sav-ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shep-herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
 5 You give your-self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

Refrain

so when you call your fam - ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
 that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
 Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
 whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
 to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997

Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996
 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Sending of Communion

—Please remain seated—

P: Gracious God, whose mercy endures from generation to generation:
Bless those who go forth to carry your Word and sacrament to our
sisters and brothers who are homebound. In your love and compassion,
nourish and strengthen them with hope through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

Rites of Passage and Announcements

The congregation is invited to share birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant events in the life of its members. Subsequently, brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the congregation's participation in God's mission in the world.

Sending Hymn

ELW 705

—Please stand as able—

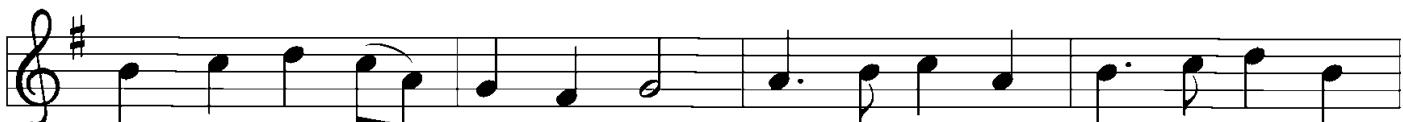
God of Grace and God of Glory



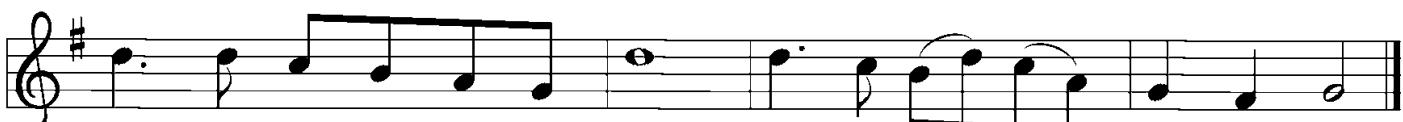
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis-dom, grant us cour-age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king-dom's goal, lest we miss your king-dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Benediction

Please move across the aisle and join hands.

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you [☩] peace.

C: **Amen.**

Dismissal

LD: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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