

Third Sunday in Advent
December 11, 2022

Faith Lutheran Church

512-863-7332

Georgetown, TX 78628

flcms.org

(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)

WELCOME

INVOCATION:

Vicar: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 146:1-4, 10*

Vicar: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

People: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Vicar: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

People: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

Vicar: The LORD will reign forever; your God, O Zion, to all generations.

People: Praise the LORD!

Vicar: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: “Arise, O Christian People” (Lutheran Service Book, #354)

Arise, O Christian people!
Prepare yourselves today;
Prepare to greet the Savior,
Who takes your sins away.
To us by grace alone
The truth and light were given;
The promised Lord from heaven
To all the world is shown.

Prepare the way before Him;
Prepare for Him the best.
Cast out what would offend Him,
This great, this heav'nly guest.
Make straight, make plain the way:
The lowly valleys raising,
The heights of pride abasing,
His path all even lay.

The humble heart and lowly
God raises up on high;
Beneath His feet in terror
The haughty soul shall lie.
The heart sincere and right,
That heeds God's invitation
And makes true preparation—
It is the Lord's delight.

Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus;
Turn not from me aside,
And help me to receive You
This blessed Adventtide.
From stall and manger low
Come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing Your praises gladly
And forth Your glory show.

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CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION: page 167, absolution right column

Vicar: *Friends in Christ, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

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

Vicar: *Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

People: **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.

Vicar: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

A LITANY FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT:

Vicar: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You love all people and forget none, before Your Son Jesus comes again from heaven we bring to You our prayers for all Your children.

People: Hear us, we pray, and answer us with favor for the sake of Christ our Lord.

Vicar: For all whom we love and all on whom we look with watchful care:

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all who have blessed us with kindness, led us with patience, and restored us by their sympathy and help;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all who have wished or done us harm, that You would turn their hearts to penitence and ours to forgiveness;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all who suffer from oppression, persecution, and wrongful imprisonment, that You would be merciful toward them and fill our hearts also with mercy toward them;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all who bear the cross of suffering, the sick in body or mind, the bereaved, and those who are perplexed and troubled by the deeper questions of life;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all whose hearts are heavy over the waywardness, rebelliousness, or unbelief of someone dear to them;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all who are tempted in any way or whose souls are in peril of condemnation, that Your Spirit will intervene with saving might;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For those who are sad and lonely in the midst of others' joys;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For those who are passing even now through the valley of the shadow of death, that they may find strength and peace in You;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all whose duties require separation from comfort and family yet protect the common well-being, that they may know Your protection and the guardianship of holy angels;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: For all whom we have forgotten yet are dear to You;

People: While we yet have time we beseech You to hear us, O God.

Vicar: O God our Father, listen with kindness to our petitions, for we offer them through Christ Jesus, Your Son.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Vicar: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Vicar: Let us pray:

People: By Your powerful and gracious presence, Lord Jesus, calm our anxious and burdened hearts so that we may live in Your peace and gladly share it with others; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 35

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
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.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
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.”
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
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;
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.
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.
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.
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.

RESPONSORY: Psalm 146:7c-8

Lector: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

People: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

EPISTLE READING: *James 5:7–11*

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. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 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.

RESPONSORY: Psalm 146:5

Lector: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,.

People: whose hope is in the LORD his God.

Lector: Please rise, as you are able.

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter:

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 11:2–15*

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. From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered

violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Nicene Creed.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

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 of the world to come. Amen!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN: “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” (LSB, #348)

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,

But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.

Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.

The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

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SERMON: “Not Longer Anxious, But Still Anxious” (*Isaiah 35:4*)

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

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.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE FOR ADVENT

Pastor: 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 singing:

SANCTUS: page 178



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:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI: page 180



G 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.

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper will be distributed at the altar rail. Please follow the ushers' directions.

DISTRIBUTION SONG: "Christ Be All Around Me"

As I rise, strength of God, go before, lift me up;
As I wake, eyes of God, look upon, be my sight.

As I wait, heart of God, satisfy and sustain;
As I hear, voice of God, lead me on, be my guide, be my guide

Above and below me, before and behind me;
In ev'ry eye that sees me, Christ be all around me;
Above and below me, before and behind me;
In ev'ry eye that sees me, Christ be all around me.

As I go, hand of God, my defense, by my side;
As I rest, breath of God, fall upon, bring me peace, bring me peace.

Above and below me, before and behind me;
In ev'ry eye that sees me, Christ be all around me;
Above and below me, before and behind me;
In ev'ry eye that sees me, Christ be all around me.

Your life, Your death, Your blood was shed
For ev'ry moment, ev'ry moment;
(Repeat)

Above and below me, before and behind me;
In ev'ry eye that sees me, Christ be all around me;
Above and below me, before and behind me;
In ev'ry eye that sees me, Christ be all around me.

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DISTRIBUTION SONG: "Christ Be Magnified"

Were creation suddenly articulate
With a thousand tongues to lift one cry
Then from north to south and east to west
We'd hear Christ be magnified

Were the whole earth echoing His eminence
His name would burst from sea and sky
From rivers to the mountain tops
We'd hear Christ be magnified

O Christ be magnified
Let His praise arise
Christ be magnified in me
O Christ be magnified
From the altar of my life
Christ be magnified in me

When ev'ry creature finds its inmost melody
And ev'ry human heart its native cry
O then in one enraptured hymn of praise
We'll sing Christ be magnified

O Christ be magnified
Let His praise arise
Christ be magnified in me
O Christ be magnified
From the altar of my life
Christ be magnified in me
(repeat)

CCLI Song # 7139866

Cody Carnes | Cory Asbury | Ethan Hulse

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives” (LSB, #602, verses 1-2, 5-6)

The gifts Christ freely gives
He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride,
His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts
Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ
And cling to His strong name.

The gifts flow from the font
Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes
Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins
With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself
Gives pow’r to call Him Lord.

The gifts are in the feast,
Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine
Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood
Remove our ev’ry sin;

We leave His presence in
His peace, renewed again.

All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” (LSB, #338)

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art,
Dear desire of ev’ry nation,
Joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver;
Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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COMMON DISMISSAL:

Vicar: Now may this true body and blood our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in faith unto life everlasting.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Vicar: Let us pray:

People: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

VERSICLES FOR ADVENT:

Vicar: The Spirit and the Church cry out:

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Vicar: All those who await His appearance pray:

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

Vicar: The whole creation pleads:

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

BENEDICTION: (Numbers 6:24-26)

Vicar: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" (LSB, #398)

Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy

And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.

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DISMISSAL:

+ † +

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

In Christian Service:

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

with

Liturgist: Vicar John Cotner

Proclaimer: Rev. Walt Pohland

Musicians: Adam Perez and Austin Angerman

Organist: Karen Darby

8:15 Lay Reader: Ken Alford

11:00 Lay Reader: Sue Burton

Children's Message: DCE Austin Angerman