

# Third Sunday in Advent

December 10, 2023

8:15 AM only

**Faith Lutheran Church**

512-863-7332

**Georgetown, TX 78628**

flcms.org

*(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)*

## **WELCOME**

## **INVOCATION:**

*Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 71:19, 15, 22-23*

*Pastor: Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.*

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

*Pastor: I will praise You with the harp for Your faithfulness, O my God;*

**People: I will sing praises to You with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.**

*Pastor: My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You, my soul also, which You have redeemed.*

**People: And my tongue will talk of Your righteous help all the day long.**

*Pastor: 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:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (LSB, #357 v. 1, 4, 6, 7)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!  
O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!  
O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace.

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*Text: Public domain*

### **CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION: LSB, pages 184-5 absolution—left column**

*Pastor: 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.*

*Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

*Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,*

**People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,*

*People: 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.*

*Pastor: 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.*

*People: Amen.*

**KYRIE: LSB, pages 168-169 (chanted)**

*Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.*

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.*

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.*

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

**People: Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*Pastor: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

*Pastor: Let us pray:*

**People: Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and by Your gracious coming fill our hearts with joy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11***

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;

to comfort all who mourn;  
to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations. . . .  
For I the Lord love justice;  
I hate robbery and wrong;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
Their offspring shall be known among the nations,  
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge them,  
that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;  
my soul shall exult in my God,  
for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation;  
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to sprout up before all the nations.

**RESPONSORY:** Psalm 71:5a, 8

*Lector: You, O LORD are my hope.*

**People: My mouth is filled with Your praise, and with Your glory all the day.**

**EPISTLE READING:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He Who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it.

**RESPONSORY:** Psalm 71:14,

*Lector: I will hope continually and will praise You yet more and more.*

**People: You Who have done great things, O God, who is like You?**

*Lector: Please rise, as you are able.*

*Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter:*

**People: Glory to You, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL READING:** John 1:6–8, 19–28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. . . .

This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands One you do not know, even He Who comes after me, the strap of Whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

*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!**

**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.

*Text: Public domain*

**SERMON:** “The Colors of the Season” (*Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11*)

## **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

*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, ever more praising you and singing:

## SANCTUS

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



□ 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: "How Can I Keep From Singing"

My life goes on in endless song

Above earth's lamentations,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn  
That hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm,  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth  
How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife  
I hear that music ringing,  
It sounds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm,  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth  
How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die?  
The Lord my Savior liveth!  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night He giveth!

No storm can shake my inmost calm,  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth  
How can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
A fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am His,  
How can I keep from singing!

No storm can shake my inmost calm,  
While to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth  
How can I keep from singing?

*Public Domain*

**DISTRIBUTION SONG: "This I Believe"**

Our Father everlasting

The all creating One  
God Almighty  
Through Your Holy Spirit  
Conceiving Christ the Son  
Jesus our Saviour

I believe in God our Father  
I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit  
Our God is three in One  
I believe in the resurrection  
That we will rise again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

Our judge and our defender  
Suffered and crucified  
Forgiveness is in You  
Descended into darkness  
You rose in glorious life  
Forever seated high

I believe in God our Father  
I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit  
Our God is three in One  
I believe in the resurrection  
That we will rise again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

I believe in You  
I believe You rose again  
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord  
I believe in life eternal  
I believe in the virgin birth  
I believe in the saints' communion  
And in Your holy Church  
I believe in the resurrection  
When Jesus comes again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus

*CCLI Song # 7018338*  
*Ben Fielding | Matt Crocker*

**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!

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN: “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord” (LSB, #637)**

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was He for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav’nly bread He makes the hungry whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow  
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

*Text: Public domain*

**COMMON DISMISSAL:**

*Pastor: 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**

*Pastor: Let us pray:*

**People: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, You have blessed us with forgiveness and everlasting life through Your holy body and blood. Grant that by Your sacrifice on our behalf we may be moved to give of ourselves for the blessing of others and so extend to all nations the joy of Your coming; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION: (2 Corinthians 13:14)**

*Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all*

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** “Hark the Glad Sound” (LSB, #349)

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long;  
Let ev’ry heart prepare a throne  
And ev’ry voice a song.

He comes the pris’ners to release,  
In Satan’s bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav’n’s eternal arches ring  
With Thy belovèd name.

*Text: Public domain*

**DISMISSAL:**

+ † +

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**In Christian Service:**

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

*with*

Liturgist: Rev. Walt Pohland

Proclaimer: Rev. Dr. Jim Marriott

Musician & Organist: Adam Perez

8:15 Lay Reader: Sue Burton

11:00 Lay Reader: Tanya Broughman

Children's Message: DCE Jonathan Loesch