

DECEMBER 15, 2024 - THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prelude - "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" setting by Donald Johns.

Stand

331 The Advent of Our King



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt.; Public domain
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76; Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Advent Wreath Lighting

P Dear friends in Christ, on this Third Sunday in Advent, we are invited to rejoice in the Lord, for He is near. In anticipation of the joy of Christmas, we light the third candle on the Advent wreath, recalling that joy is one of the surest signs of God's presence among us.

P Lord Jesus, our hearts are full of joy, for You are near.
C Lord, have mercy.

P Christ Jesus, You come with the Good News of salvation for Your holy people.
C Christ, have mercy.

P Lord Jesus, the power of Your love brings us healing and forgiveness.
C Lord, have mercy.

P May Almighty God have mercy upon you, forgive you your sins, ✠ and bring you to everlasting life.
C Amen.

The fifth stanza of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is sung while the third candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

sts. ref, 5

5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen
wide our heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that
leads on high, And close the path to mis - er - y.
Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; Public domain
Tune: French, 15th cent.; Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

- 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.

- C** Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

- ¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
- ¹⁵The 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.
- ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
- ¹⁷The 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.
- ¹⁸I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
- ¹⁹Behold, 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.
²⁰At 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.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 85; CCLI # 6015400

85A LORD, You Have Lavished on Your Land

1 LORD, you have lav-ished on your land a - maz - ing bless - ings
 2 LORD, bring us back to grace a - gain; blot out your an - ger
 3 To all his saints, the LORD speaks peace; his faith - ful love and
 4 Then love will meet with faith - ful - ness; God's right - eous - ness and

from your hand, re - stored us from cap - tiv - i - ty
 at our sin. Re - vive us, LORD, that we may raise
 care in - crease. He shares his grace with o - pen hand
 peace will kiss. As right - eous - ness smiles down from heaven,

and par - doned our in - iq - ui - ty. In grace you caused
 our thank - ful hymns and psalms of praise. In mer - cy, LORD,
 to spread his glo - ry through our land. Sal - va - tion from
 great har - vests to our land are given. With God all right -

your wrath to turn; you did not let your an - ger burn.
 your peo - ple bless with sav - ing love and faith - ful - ness.
 the LORD is near to all who trust the LORD in fear.
 eous - ness a - bides; his truth and jus - tice are our guides.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Words: Marie J. Post, 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources
 Music (MELITA 8.8.8.8.8): John B. Dykes (1823-1876), 1861, P.D.

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a final double bar line at the end of the second staff.

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18–28

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling 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?” ²⁰And 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?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And 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. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When 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? ²⁵What 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. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.”

²⁸I 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** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

All sing ss. 1, 2, 5; Men sing s. 3 and Women sing s. 4.



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
 2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
 3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
 4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
 △ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
 earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
 sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
 with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
 liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.; Public domain
 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89; Public domain

Sermon

Stand

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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Kneel

Prayer of the Church

Each petition ends:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy:
- C** **Hear our prayer!**

Sit

Anthem - The Parish Choir sings “*Come, Emmanuel, Come*” by Besig (10:30).

Stand

Preface

LSB 177

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**

- P** 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 saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

C 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.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the 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 testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



C 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.

Sit

Distribution

333 Once He Came in Blessing



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text (sts. 1, 4): Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Public domain
 Text (sts. 2–3): Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000747
 Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534; Public domain

338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, Thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;
 2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
 Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
 By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.; Public domain
 Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven; Public domain

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart \cdot in peace.
- C** Amen.

Nunc Dimittis



C Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
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.
- C** Amen.

Benediction

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

349 Hark the Glad Sound



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51; Public domain
Tune: Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820; Public domain

Postlude - "Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flyting" tune *Wachet Auf*, setting by Walter.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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