

ORDER OF SERVICE

Evangelical Lutheran Worship ~ Setting V 10:30 AM

INTRODUCTION

The presence of the Lord “in your midst” in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the Lord in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with his winnowing fork in his hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

Today the church commemorates Lucy, one of the virgin martyrs, whose celebration became particularly important in Sweden and Norway.

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN “Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn” ELW 242

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen

P The Sun of Righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Almighty God,

C **we confess that we have sinned against you, and against our sisters and brothers. Our words and deeds have not proclaimed your reign of justice and truth. We have failed to watch and pray for the signs of your advent among us. Forgive our sin, and come quickly to save us. Amen.**

P In the advent of Christ, the dawn from on high breaks upon you with light and healing. Through Jesus Christ, God looks with favor upon you, and forgives you all your sins.

C Amen.

GREETING

P From the one who was, who is, and who is to come: Grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



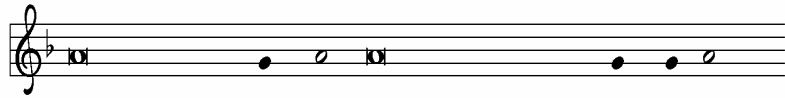
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



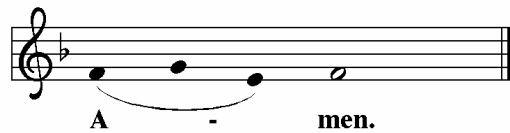
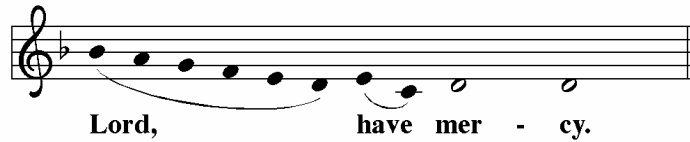
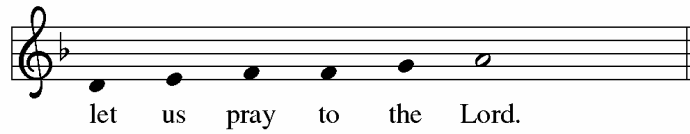
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray ...

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God,

C: 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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, pictures the new people of God (3:12-13). Judgment has brought repentance and salvation, and now is the time of celebration.

Sing 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.

PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (Isa. 12:6)

Sung Responsively

Surely God is | my salvation;*

I will trust, and will not | be afraid,

for the LORD God is my strength | and my might;*

he has become | my salvation.

³With joy you | will draw water*

from the wells | of salvation.

⁴And you will say | in that day:*

Give thanks to the LORD, call | on his name;

make known his deeds a- | mong the nations;*

proclaim that his name | is exalted.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he | has done gloriously;*
let this be known in | all the earth.

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion,*
for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel.

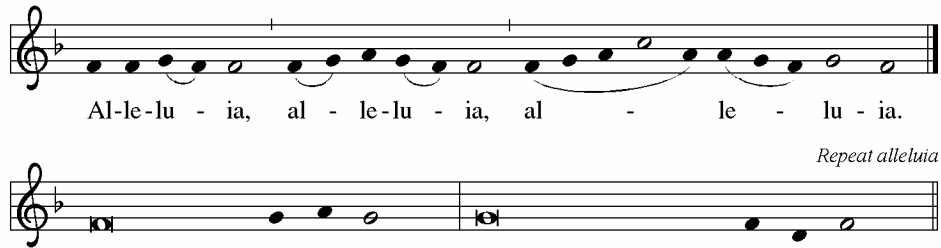
SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

The theme of joy sounded in the first reading continues in Paul's confident words to the Philippians. Although he writes from prison, Paul finds hope in the assurance that hearts and minds are guarded securely by the peace of God

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry 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.

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Gospel Acclamation



Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the third chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

Before he begins his account of Jesus' ministry, Luke describes the work of John the Baptist, who proclaimed the good news in startling images. Radical generosity and faithfulness in vocation are among the fruits of repentance John identifies.

John 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 Our Lord

C. Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN'S TIME

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" **ELW 240**

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. Lift your heads and life high the gateway for the King of Glory.

THE SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Prepare the Royal Highway"

ELW 264

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God.

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,**

of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

A: Waiting and watching for our sure and certain hope, let us pray for the world redeemed, the church reformed, and for all people restored in the coming one.

A brief silence.

A: We rejoice in your renewing presence this day, O God, for you give us your saving word that makes us die to sin and raises us to newness of life. Keep us, as your church, steadfast in your word and receptive to the ways of your Spirit among us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We rejoice in your providing presence this day, O God, for you are the supplier of our every need. Provide warmth and food for all who lack such basic human needs, and use our hearts and hands as the means of your gracious provision. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We rejoice in your healing presence, this day, O God, for you transform our sorrowful sighing into singing. Be present to all who are ill in body or in spirit, especially Joanne Pomeroy, and all who grieve with the comfort of your promises and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We rejoice in your sustaining presence this day, O God, for in your goodness and mercy you bring forth the fruits of the earth. As field and farmland now rest in winter's night, may harvests again be bountiful after seedtime and summer's growth. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We rejoice, in your saving presence this day, O God, for you promise to alleviate disasters and gather the outcasts. Through us, bring relief to all for whom any calamity or catastrophe has created suffering and displacement. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We rejoice in your strengthening presence this day, O God, for in you there is no fear of retribution. May all who come to your places of worship find the welcome of genuine community and the warmth of holy hospitality. We pray for this congregation and our companion congregations this week: Good Shepherd in Wichita, Immanuel in Wilson, and Christ the King in St. Peters, Mo. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other prayers are offered.

A: We rejoice in your comforting presence this day, O God, for you promise never to leave us or forsake us. Keep us in communion with all the saints especially the martyr Lucy, whom we commemorate today, until that day when all tears will be wiped away and sorrow will be no more. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Alert and watching for the coming of the Lord, we commend to you, O God, all for whom we pray, trusting all things to your never-failing love revealed Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE OFFERING

ELW 188

Create in Me *Offering Song*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of musical notation for the song 'Create in Me'. It consists of a treble and bass staff in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 'Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right'.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

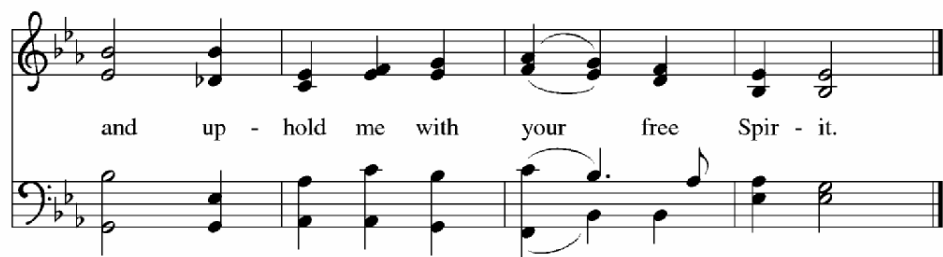
The second system of musical notation. The melody continues from the first system. The lyrics are: 'spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your'.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system of musical notation. The melody continues. The lyrics are: 'pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -'.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system of musical notation, which concludes the piece. The melody ends with a final cadence. The lyrics are: 'store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,'.



OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: God of mercy and grace,

C: the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. From all that you have given us, receive these gifts, signs of our thanksgiving and praise. Fill us with good things at your table that we may come to the help of all in need; through Jesus Christ, our redeemer. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 161

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

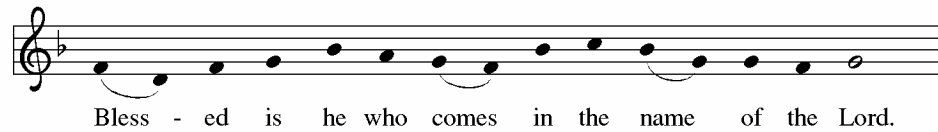
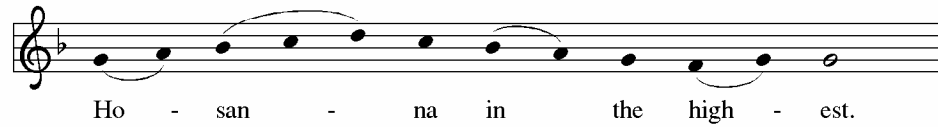
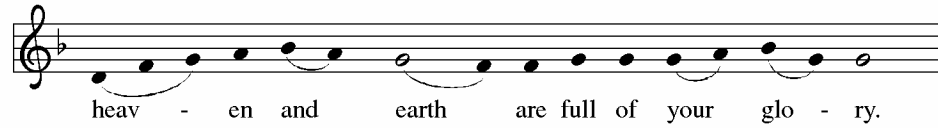
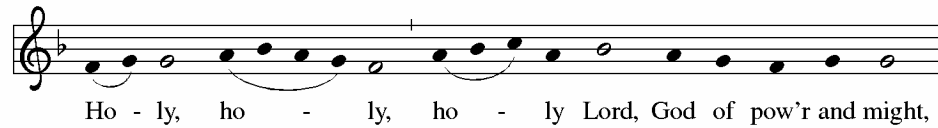
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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...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



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P.110

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you...for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Words of Institution

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup,...We look with hope for his coming

C: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God...Bring the gift of peace on earth

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours. Holy One of Israel, Word of God Incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P. 154

P: Remember us in your Kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray:

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

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

p.164

Lamb of God

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. A - men.

Now, Lord



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
 been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
 which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
 a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry 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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray...
 God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the day
 when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make
 known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name; through
 Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C **Amen**

BENEDICTION

P The God of hope strengthen your hearts as you await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all the saints. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

"People Look East"

ELW 248

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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