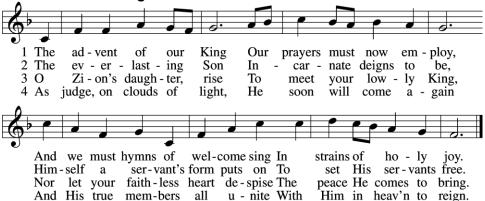
## DECEMBER 12, 2021 - THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prelude - "Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates" tune Macht hoch dir Tur; setting by Johnson

Stand

### 331 The Advent of Our King



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.

Tune and text: 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.

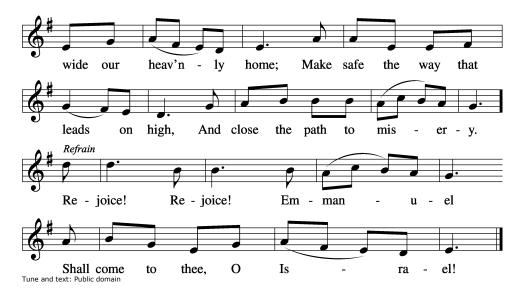
### Advent Wreath Lighting

- 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.



sts. ref, 5



### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- The Lord be with you.
- And also with you. C
- Let us pray.
- C 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. Amen.

Sit

### **Old Testament Reading**

Zephaniah 3:14-20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;

shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,

O daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>The 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.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

"Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The 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.

<sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,

so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

<sup>19</sup>Behold, 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.

<sup>20</sup>At 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**

Pastor reads the odd verses and the congregation reads the even verses.

Psalm 85

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

## <sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.

<sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

## <sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!

<sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

### <sup>6</sup>Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

<sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

# <sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

<sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

# <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

## <sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle Philippians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And 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





Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

### Glory to You, O Lord.

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

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

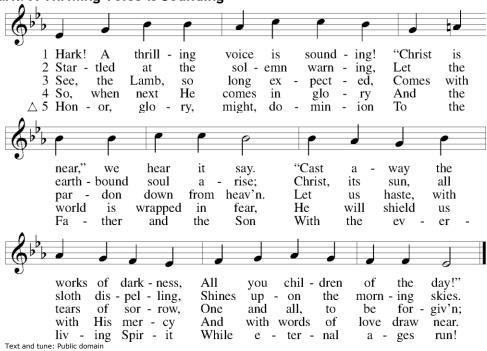
"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

<sup>28</sup>I 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.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

### 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



#### Sermon

Stand

### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Sit

**Anthem** - Bell Choir Plays "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" traditional English carol, arr. by Douglas Wagner (8:00 AM)

Kneel

### Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Each petition ends:

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

The Prayers conclude:

- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all those for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

Lord's Prayer LSB 162

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom 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.

Benediction LSB 166

**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.

Stand

### 349 Hark the Glad Sound



**Postlude** - "Rejoice Greatly in the Lord" by Rex Koury

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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