

# Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

## *Spirit of the Lord Upon Me*

*God's Holy Spirit brings with it the gifts of salvation and righteousness—  
far greater gifts than sparkly things and new stuff.*

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*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

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Prelude

O Come, O Come

Announcements

Gathering Music

*Advent Wreath Candle Lighting*

Red ELW 240 vs. 3

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

## Confession & Forgiveness

We confess our sins before God and one another.

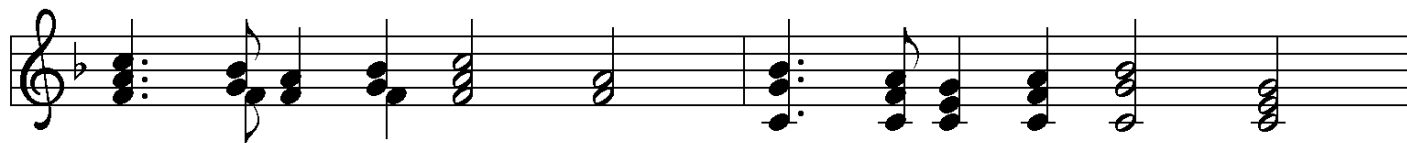
*Pause for silence and reflection.*

Renewing God,

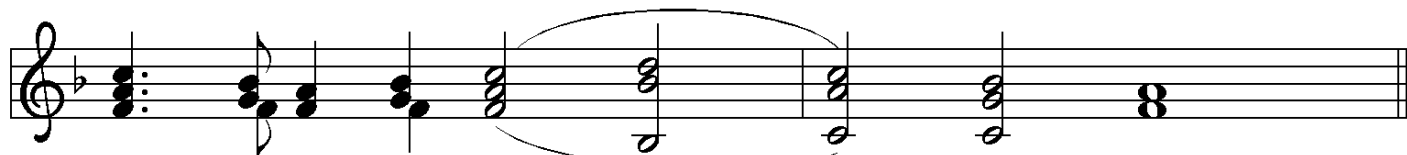
**You have come into our world to live among us, yet we often lose sight of this and seek to manufacture our own truth. We are afraid to share your word lest others judge or mock us. We ignore your wisdom because it isn't convenient. We allow ourselves to be defeated by despair. Forgive our negligence and breathe new life into our heavy hearts.**

God knows our every weakness and still loves us and upholds our life. May your sins be forgiven, your past forgotten, and your hope restored in the name of our incarnate savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

# Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

# Song

## Prepare the Royal Highway

Red ELW 264 vv. 1,3,4

**Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!  
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!  
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:**

### Refrain

**Hosanna to the Lord,  
for he fulfills God's word!**

**Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!  
Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring.  
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing: Refrain**

**His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.  
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.  
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: Refrain**

# Prayer of the Day

Faithful God,

You restore to your people all that has been lost. Renew our hopes for the future and our zeal for serving you as chosen and beloved children, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

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## *God speaks to us in scripture, preaching & song*

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*Israel had strayed and was exiled. But God was not done with her yet.  
God promised the Holy Spirit, which would bring dreams and visions of a life far better than this.*

### Invitation to the Word

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** Red ELW 257

**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 you, O Israel.**

### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61:1-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; 2to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

4They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. 5Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; 6but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. 7Because their shame was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs. 8For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. 9Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

10I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being 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 with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

11For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

*Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.***

# Message

## Special Music

*Keep Your Lamps*

## Proclamation of Faith

**We believe that God creates all things,  
renews all things, and celebrates all things.**

**We believe that God became flesh and blood,  
entered a rebellious, wayward, and broken world  
and absolutely changed everything.**

**We believe that the risen Jesus is the light of the world,  
reconciling all things to God, making all things new,  
and redeeming his creation.**

**We believe the Spirit renews life in creation,  
groans in empathy with the suffering, and waits with us for rebirth.**

**We believe that with Christ we will rise  
and with Christ we will celebrate all being made new.**

## Prayers of the People

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

More valuable than expensive clothes or symbols of status is the robe of righteousness with which you cover us. Teach us to treasure the gifts of your kingdom blessings more than the material things which we are tempted to pursue.

Generous God, **Hear our prayer.**

Build up and restore ruined relationships and shattered connections with those from whom we feel distanced. Forgive harmful words and actions and teach us to value love and compassion above the need to be right and to justify ourselves.

Generous God, **Hear our prayer.**

Just as the earth brings forth shoots and a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, you will keep your promise to renew all of creation, even after all the damage it has

suffered. Make us co-creators in your reconciling work, defenders of living things and the environment which supports them.

Generous God, **Hear our prayer.**

Those who mourn will one day celebrate again. Heal all those struggling with grief, regret, sadness, or any sort of illness, especially those whom we name before you...

Generous God, **Hear our prayer.**

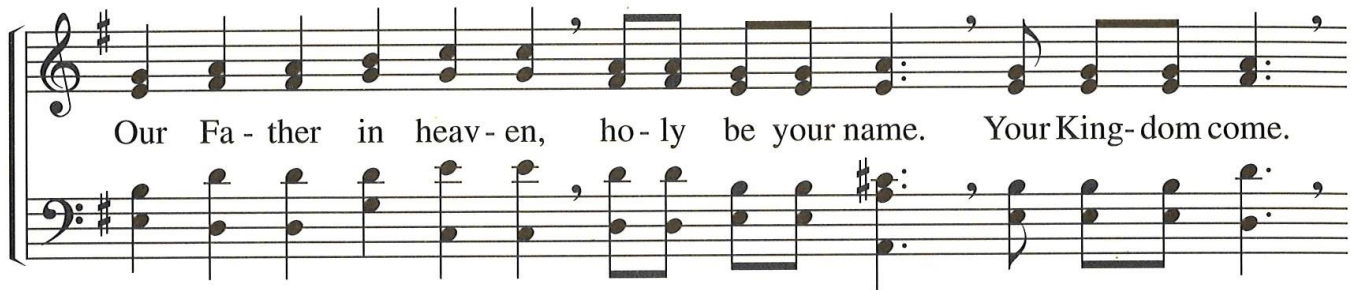
We honor St. Lucia for her generosity and devotion to her faith, and we pray to be as bold in our own proclamation of your gospel.

Generous God, **Hear our prayer.**

*Other petitions may be offered.*

Our eyes await the fulfillment of all your promises, the answer to all our prayers: your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, ho - ly be your name. Your King - dom come.



Your will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.

Keep us from temp - ta - tion, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For the King - dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

## Sharing God's Peace

"Comfort, comfort, now my people, tell of peace!" So says our God.  
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## Reading

*Rough Translations: A poem by Jan Richardson*

Hoping against hope, he believed. —Romans 4:18

hope nonetheless.

hope despite.

hope regardless.

hope still.

hope where we had ceased to hope.

hope amid what threatens hope.

hope with those who feed our hope.

hope beyond what we had hoped.

hope that draws us past our limits.

hope that defies expectations.

hope that questions what we have known.

hope that makes a way where there is none.

hope that takes us past our fear.  
hope that calls us into life.  
hope that holds us beyond death.  
hope that blesses those to come.

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*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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## Blessing

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, † now and forever. **Amen.**

## Sending Song

### *Hear the Angels*

**Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
Hear them tell of the Savior's birth.  
Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
"Glory to God, and peace to the earth."**

*Alleluia! Angels sing!  
Alleluia! A Savior is born,  
alleluia! Christ is coming.  
All of heaven and earth, adore.*

**Hear the shepherds sing; come and follow  
by the light of the morning star.  
Hear the shepherds sing, "Come and follow;  
to worship the child we will travel afar."**

*Alleluia! Shepherds sing!  
Alleluia! A Savior is born,  
alleluia! Christ is coming.  
All of heaven and earth, adore.*

**Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
Hear them tell of the Savior's birth.  
Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
"Glory to God, and peace to the earth."**

# Sending

All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last. **Thanks be to God.**

# Postlude

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*



## Participants

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz & Michael TeKrony
- Assisting Minister: Scott Ikenberry
- Prelude/Gathering Music/Postlude: Jordan Ortman
- Liturgy Leaders: Andy Steitz, Michael Boehm, Susie & Ken DiPaolo, Brooke Davis, Nick, Lindsey & Hailey Simmons
- Liturgy Musicians: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Opening Song: Jordan Ortman, Brenda Gleason, Susie DiPaolo  
Amy Evancheck, Denise Ikenberry, Dave Gleason  
Scott Ikenberry, Paul Thomas, Eric Kurtz, Ron Skabo  
Mike Madsen
- Special Music: Denver Lutheran Virtual Choir
- Lord's Prayer: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues,  
Larry Lagerberg, Karen Novess
- Closing Song: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Photographs: Winston Herbert, Michael TeKrony, Ron Skabo,  
Amy Evancheck