

Sunday Worship

December 12, 2021 ~ Advent 3

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship: You will find this book in your pew rack. The hymn numbers are located near the hymn names, often on the top of the page.

Prelude

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arranged by Sandra Eithun
HANDBELL CHOIR

Welcome

Gathering

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

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

Pastor:

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

People: Amen.

Pastor:

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

People: Amen.

Gathering Song - ELW #257 -

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Verses 1-3).

Prior to the hymn, Our Saviour's youth will tell about and light the Advent candles.

Greeting

Pastor: From the One who was, who is, and who is to come, grace and peace be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



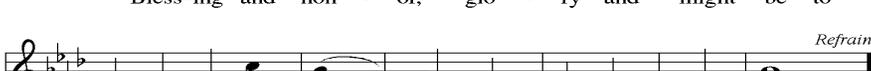
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



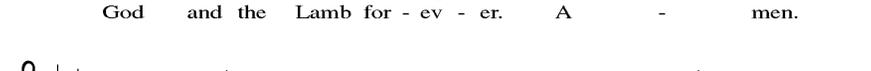
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



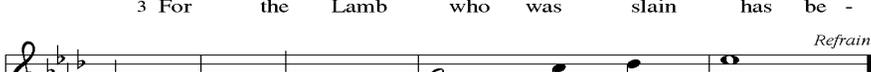
Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



Refrain
hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Refrain
gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

The assembly is seated.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

A reading from Zephaniah 3:14-20

- ¹⁴Sing 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Isaiah 12:2-6

- ²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has
become my salvation.
³**With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. R**
⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on
God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;
proclaim that this name is exalted.
⁵**Sing 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. **R**

Second Reading

A reading from **Philippians 4:4-7**

⁴Rejoice 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands.



Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel Reading

The Holy Gospel according to **Luke 3:7-18**

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷John 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.

Pastor: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly may be seated.

Sermon

Silence for reflection

The assembly stands.

Hymn of the Day ~ ELW Hymn #266

"All Earth is Hopeful"

The Apostles' Creed

Pastor: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

After each petition of the prayers:

Lector: Hear us, O God,

People: Your mercy is great.

Lector: God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

People: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Statement of Intent Offering

Pastor: God, you give us all that we have,
Creating us in your image,
And calling us good.

People: Through the promise of Christ Jesus, you remind us: Look to God first, and God will make your way.

Pastor: You've been created in love, for love.

Thank you, Holy God, for the blessing of our lives. Ground us in gratitude for all you have given. Turn our hearts from worry and fear and toward abundance and generosity. Show us your unending love.

During the time of music, you are invited to fill out and/or bring your Statement of Intent forward and place it in the basket by the Baptismal Font. If you prefer, you can also place it in the offering plate or deliver it to the church office. The regular weekly offering will follow.

Offering

Offering Prayer

The assembly stands.

Pastor: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

People: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Pastor: 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, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. 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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness.
Blessed are you for Jesus, the Word made flesh.

Thanksgiving At The Table

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in Christ's death and resurrection. We look with hope for Christ.

People: Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated.

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.

Communion Music

~ ELW Hymn #243

"Lost in the Night" LOST IN THE NIGHT

"Let Us Break Bread Together" arranged by Sandra Eithun
HANDBELL CHOIR

Post-Communion Blessing

The living body and life blood of Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Most High God,
you have come among us at this table.
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of
your word,
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.
Amen.

Sending Announcements

Please rise in body/spirit.

Blessing

Pastor: The God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

People: Amen.

Sending Hymn ~ ELW Hymn #239
"Hark, the Glad Sound!" CHESTERFIELD

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace, Christ is near.

People: Thanks be to God!

Please add to your prayer list:

Mert Ingvaldstad

Gerry Meyer

Mary Neff

Joy Neverman

Beverly Neff

June Williams

Michael Lounsbury

Mary Hewlett

Sally Ronning

Daphne Myers

Michael Neff

Hildi Williams

Keith Swarny



Next Week's Readings

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46b-55,

Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

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THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor/Presider

Pastor Amalia Vagts

Lector

Bill DeVinney

Accompanist

Marshall Adams

Communion

Assistant

Bill DeVinney

Cantor

Sophia Rankin

Acolyte

Ginny Phillips

Handbell Choir

Phaela Andressen

Betsy Kohls

Kathie Miller

Kent Pflibsen

Kris Sanchez

Hildi Williams

June Williams

Ushers

Kathy DeVinney

Ginny Phillips

Sound & Video

Kent Pflibsen

Tracy Ratliff

Timothy Bustamonte

William Alvord

Jack Ryan

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