



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

(907) 488-6720 [www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

Welcome! Words in **bold** are said together.

## *Confession and Forgiveness*

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Congregation: Amen.***

*L: Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.*

*God for whom we wait,*

**C: in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you. We fail in believing that your good news is for us. We falter in our call to tend your creation. We find our sense of self in material wealth. We fear those different from ourselves. We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love. Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

*L: God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace. **C: Amen.***

## *Advent Candle Lighting*

*Gathering Song – Here I am to Worship (lyrics will display on screen)*

1. Light of the world You stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes let me see.  
Beauty that made this heart adore You hope of a life spent with you.

*Refrain:* So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

2. King of all days, oh so highly exalted Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly you came to the earth you created all for love's sake became poor. (*Refrain*)

*Bridge:* And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross. (*Refrain*)

***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.***

## *Scripture Readings*

Zephaniah 3:14-20 p. 767

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The 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. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The 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 →

<sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup>I 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. <sup>20</sup>At 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.

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

Isaiah 12:2-6 p. 558

<sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. <sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Philippians 4:4-7 p. 955

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry 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.

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

The holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 3:7-18 p. 834

<sup>7</sup>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? <sup>8</sup>Bear 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. <sup>9</sup>Even 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." <sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>Soldiers 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." <sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John 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. <sup>17</sup>His 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." <sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children's Message and Sermon*

Pastor Curt Matz

*Song of the Day – From the Inside Out*

1. A thousand times I've failed, still your mercy remains.  
And should I stumble again, still I'm caught in your grace.

*Refrain:* Everlasting, Your light will shine when all else fades.  
Never-ending, Your glory goes beyond all fame.  
My heart and my soul I give you control. Consume me from the inside out, Lord.  
Let justice and praise become my embrace, to love You from the inside out.

2. Your will above all else, my purpose remains,  
the art of losing myself in bringing You praise. (*Refrain x1.5*)

*Ending:* And the cry of my heart is to bring You praise.  
From the inside out, Lord, my soul cries out. (*Verse 1 and Refrain x2*)

### *Apostle's Creed*

**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 God's People*

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

### *Offering*

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ Online: "giving" tab at [www.lordoflifeak.com/giving](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/giving) or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



### *Offering Song – Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

*Verse:* Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad You're in my life, I'm so glad You came to save us.

*Refrain:* You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;  
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high. (*Sing twice*)

***Offering Prayer – 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. Amen.***

### *Christ's Words of Institution and Communion*

We eat and drink together at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

## *The Lord's Prayer*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### *Announcements*

- An Igloo cooler has been parked near the office for awhile. The canned goods inside have been donated, but take the cooler home if it's yours 😊
- You can still contribute to Adopt a Family. No time to shop? Donate to Lord of Life (memo Adopt a Family) and Eileen D. will shop for you. Let's make this family's Christmas bright!
- Pastor Amanda left a selection of \*new\* books for us – check `em out
- Discontinued: Wednesday Advent services, due to low attendance and lack of worship leaders
- Slots for beef are still available – help your church pay the fuel bill while filling your freezer with cuts of locally raised, high-quality, grass fed beef; sign up clipboard near the office

### *Blessing and Dismissal*

L: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

### ***Special Thanks to...***

Assistant Minister, Allen Griswold  
Video, Sam & James Aleshire  
PowerPoint, Cheryl Park

Reader, Becky Peterson  
Usher, Keil Family  
Communion Prep, ??

All songs used with  
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