

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Sebewaing

The Third Sunday in Advent

December 14, 2025

9:00 am

Divine Service 3

Announcements

Hymn – *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

LSB 398

Divine Service 3

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Invocation, Confession and Absolution

Introit

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

I will hope continually
and will praise you yet more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,
for their number is past my knowledge.

With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

O God, from my youth you have taught me,
and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

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.

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice.

Kyrie

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The Third Sunday in Advent: The Joy Candle

About Today's Candle

P: Today we light the third candle on our Advent wreath. It is sometimes called the Joy Candle, and it reminds us that Jesus Christ is our everlasting joy. The pink color of this candle marks this week in Advent as a time of cheerful celebration in the middle of this penitential season.

C: But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. (Psalm 5.11)

Lighting the Candle – *O Bride of Christ, Rejoice* (verses 1 and 2)

LSB 335

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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.

**This collect may be said each day during the week as the family lights their Advent wreath.*

The First Reading – *Isaiah 35:10-19*

Advent Hope – CTK 7/8 handbells

The Gradual

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

The Epistle – *James 5:7-11*

Children's Sermon

Alleluia & Verse

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The Gospel – *Matthew 11:2-15*

Nicene Creed

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Hymn – *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

LSB 345

Sermon

Offertory

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Offering – *What Child Is This?* – CTK 7/8 handbells

Prayer of the Church

Communion Liturgy

Service of the Sacrament

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Preface

Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei



Distribution Hymns

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849

The Advent of Our King

LSB 331

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

LSB 334

Nunc Dimittis

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Thanksgiving

Salutation

Benediction

Closing Hymn – *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

LSB 338

Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
²it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
¹⁰And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5:7-11

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Matthew 11:2-15

When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, 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? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face,

who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the

kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

PREACHER: Rev Michael Boyer
ELDERS: Warren Volz & Chuck McGathy
ORGANIST: Barbara Bleck
ACOLYTES: Jaxon Kuhl & Luke Gremel
GREETERS: Pat & Kari Stecker
SCRIP: Stephanie Boyer
USHERS: GROUP 2: Mark Bauer, Dale Truemner, Tucker Truemner, Easton Konecny, Garrett Adam, Mark Adam, Cole Finkbiner, Cody Finkbeiner, Caden Finkbeiner, Adam Maust

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Who Should Commune?

In the Sacrament of the Altar we receive, as Christ says, His true body and His true blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Those who come to the Lord’s Supper at this altar, are those who: 1 **Repent** of their sins, and earnestly seek to live according to God’s will. 2 **Trust** the Word of Christ that His body and blood are truly present and received here for forgiveness. 3 **Confess** the faith of the Lutheran Church- Missouri Synod, as a member of this congregation or a member of another LCMS congregation. If you have questions about our communion practice, please speak to the pastor or an elder.