



Third Week in Advent

“Sharing God’s Word”

December 17, 2025



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lift up your eyes; the glory of God is dawning upon you!

Lift up your eyes; the glory of God is dawning upon you!

Darkness has covered the earth and thick clouds the people;

the glory of God is dawning upon you!

Glory to you, Source of all Being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit.

Lift up your eyes; the glory of God is dawning upon you!

PRAYER

O God of Salvation, **you are close to the brokenhearted and to all who call upon you. As we anticipate Christmas, you call us to life once again. Renew our faith in the Word made Flesh so all our words may ever proclaim his glory. Amen.**

SONG

SCRIPTURE: Romans 10:5-17

5 Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” 6 But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ (that is, to bring Christ down) 7 or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). 8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), 9 because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. 11 The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” 14 But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? 15 And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” 16 But not all have obeyed the good news, for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” 17 So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. - The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

THE PRAYERS

O God, you call us to be one in you; **give us the strength to live in your love.** You walk among us in the poor and lonely; **help us to serve you in our sisters and brothers.**

You bless the church with the gift of your Spirit; **help us to place our gifts at the service of all.**

You are the Savior of the world; **give us courage to proclaim the Word made flesh that others may believe in you.**

In confidence we pray; **Come, Lord Jesus!**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, WORDS OF INSTITUTION & COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, to welcome the stranger and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May God who comes among us, Father, \pm Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be present with Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

A Word about This Year’s Advent Journey:

In the context of the Bible, the “power of the spoken word” refers to the significant spiritual force words possess, impacting both the speaker and the listener, and even affecting spiritual realities. Key scriptural themes include: God’s creative power in his spoken Word, the incarnation of God in human flesh, and the gift of God’s own breath empowering the words of ordinary people to make Christ known in time and space throughout the ages. As a people in Advent journeying toward the manger in Bethlehem, may we hear and receive our God anew!

