

Rejoice! (Gaudete) Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021



Watch our Chapel Service on CHANNEL 105

Order of Worship

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Rhonda R.

Lighting the Advent Wreath Advent III

Let us pray:

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Christ Be Our Light

ELW 715

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. **Refrain:**

Longing for food, many are hungry.
 Longing for water, many still thirst.
 Make us your bread, broken for others,
 Shared until all are fed. **Refrain:**

Text: Bernadette Farrell; **Music:** Bernadette Farrell. Text and Music: ©1983 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications.

Words of Welcome and Introduction

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
 And let your lights appear;
 The evening is advancing,
 And darker night is near.
 The bridegroom is arising
 And soon is drawing nigh.
 Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
 At midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain
 Proclaim the bridegroom near;
 Go forth as he approaches
 With alleluias clear.
 The marriage feast is waiting;
 The gates wide open stand.
 Arise, O heirs of glory;
 The bridegroom is at hand.

(Turn page)

3

The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before him
Their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, tr. Sarah B. Findlater; **Music:** Swedish folk tune, arr. hymnal version.
Arr. © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: *And also with you.*

Canticle of Praise

ELW, pages 148-149

Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading – Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! 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. On that day it shall be said to

(Turn page)

5

Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. 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 as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. 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. 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.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Psalm – Isaiah 12:2-6

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. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

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. Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading – Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 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.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Gospel Acclamation

ELW, page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Music: Thomas Pavlechko. Music © 2006 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



Gospel – Luke 3:7-18**Response: *Glory to You, O Lord.***

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? 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. 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.* And the crowds asked him, *What then should we do?* In reply he said to them, *Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.* Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, *Teacher, what should we do?* He said to them, *Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.* 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.*

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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. So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon

What Should We Do?

Pr. Mandsager



Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ELW 256

Comfort, comfort now my people; Tell of peace!

So says our God.

Comfort those who sit in darkness

Mourning under sorrow's load.

To God's people now proclaim

That God's pardon waits for them!

Tell them that their war is over;

God will reign in peace forever!

(Turn page)

9

For the herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Calling us to true repentance,
Since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way!
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior;
Hills, bow down in humble favor.

Straight shall be what long was crooked,
And the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
Now on earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token
That God's word is never broken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius; tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt. **Music:** *Trente-quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva; arr. hymnal version. Arr. © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

Prayers of the Church

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

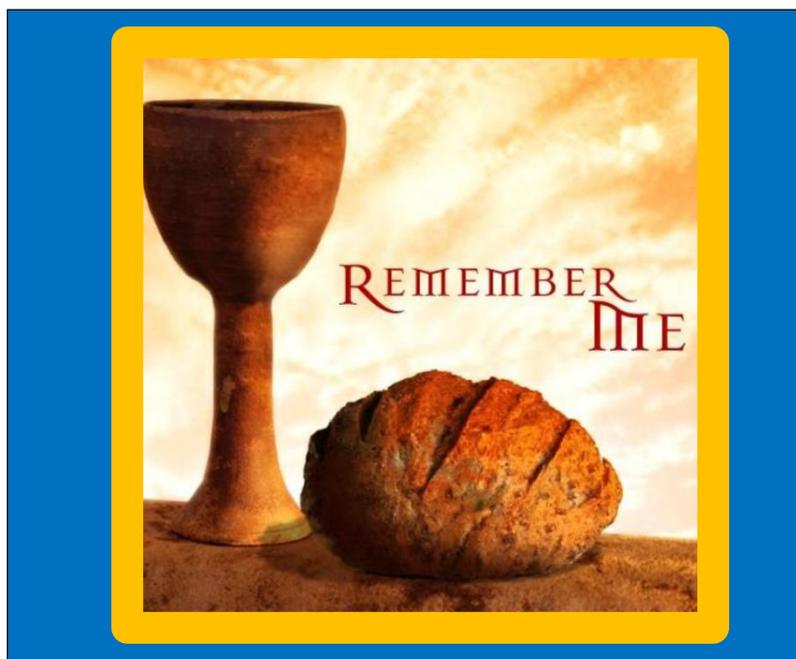
Response: And also with you.

Offertory

Savior of the Nations, Come

Rhonda R.

HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE



The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Response: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Turn page)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in
the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Invitation

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray.

**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.**

Communion Distribution

Communion Song*Lamb of God*

ELW, page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer

Oh, grant us then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food
while here, our course on earth is lengthened, to serve you
free from fear; and bring us home to praise you where none
can peace destroy, where we will ever raise you glad songs in
endless joy. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine upon
you with grace and mercy; the Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace. **Amen.**

Joy to the World

ELW 267

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

(Turn page)

13

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts; **Music:** English melody; arr. Lowell Mason, alt.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*Good Christian Friends,
Rejoice and Sing!*

Rhonda R.



**Advent Worship Calendar
10:30 AM on Channel 105**

Advent IV 12/19/2021

**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
Worship Calendar
3:30 PM on Channel 105**

Christmas Eve Service 12/24/2021

Christmas Day Vespers
Carol Service 12/25/2021

**Sundays of Christmas
10:30 AM on Channel 105**

First Sunday of Christmas 12/26/2021

Second Sunday of Christmas 01/02/2022



**Epiphany Worship Service
Thursday, January 6, 2022
3:30 PM on Channel 105**



*Liturgy used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SBL14651.
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net A-716303.*

**The Reverend Michael Mandsager, Director of Spiritual Care, Chaplain
(507) 664-3478
mmandsager@northfieldretirement.org**

**Christiana Adams, Spiritual Care Assistant (507) 650-7331
(507) 650-7331
cadams@northfieldretirement.org**