

Rejoice! (Gaudete) Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020 10:30 a.m.



Mary with the child by a window
~ Rembrandt van Rijn

Watch our Chapel Service on CHANNEL 102

Order of Worship

Carol of the Bells

Handbell Quartet
Victory Baptist Church

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

LBW 34

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.***

Oh, come, oh, come, great Lord of might,
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe. **Refrain:**

Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. **Refrain:**

Text: *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln; tr. John M. Neule, alt. **Music:** French processional

Lighting the Advent Wheel: Advent III

We praise you, O God,
for this victory crown
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wheel,
Strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory.



Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may serve our neighbors in need.
Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming
is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

Greeting & Response

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, in wonder, O God.
May we wear a mantle of praise
as we delight in your gift of salvation,
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Rhonda R.: Piano
Deonne G.: Violin

*It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
Peace on the earth, good will to all,
From heav'n's all-gracious king.
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.*

LBW 54



(Turn page)

*Still through the cloven skies they come
 With peaceful wings unfurled,
 And still their heav'nly music floats
 O'er all the weary world.
 Above its sad and lowly plains
 They bend on hov'ring wing,
 And ever o'er its babel sounds
 The blessed angels sing.*

*And you, beneath life's crushing load,
 Whose forms are bending low,
 Who toil along the climbing way
 With painful steps and slow:
 Look now, for glad and golden hours
 Come swiftly on the wing;
 Oh, rest beside the weary road
 And hear the angels sing!*

*For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
 By prophets seen of old,
 When with the ever-circling years
 Shall come the time foretold,
 When peace shall over all the earth
 Its ancient splendors fling,
 And all the world give back the song
 Which now the angels sing.*

Text: Edmund H. Sears; **Music:** Richard S. Willis

Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess that we have let cares and pleasures of this world distract us from watching for you, the Belovèd of our soul. Forgive us our downcast ways; renew our devotion; and come, Lord Jesus, come.

Absolution

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her, that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. Therefore, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, I declare unto you the forgiveness of your sins, and God's gifts of a pure heart, and a joyful spirit. **Amen.**

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

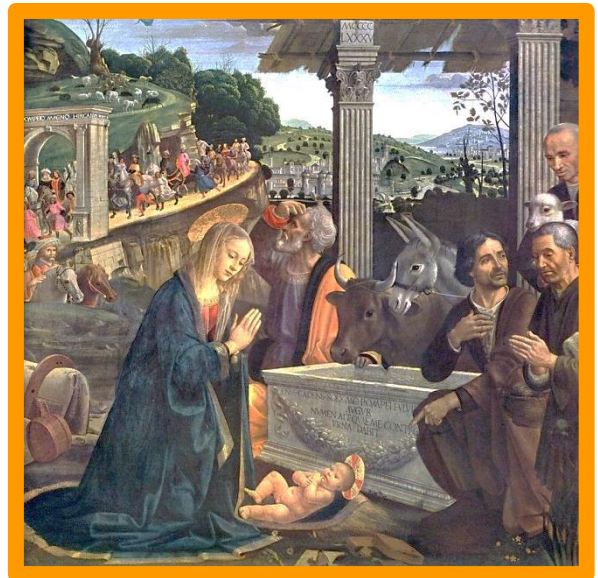
LBW 45

Oh, come, all ye faithful,
 Joyful and triumphant!
 Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold him
 Born the king of angels:

Refrain:

**Oh, come, let us adore him,
 Oh, come, let us adore him,
 Oh, come, let us adore him,
 Christ the Lord!**

The highest, most holy,
 Light of Light eternal,
 Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
 Son of the Father
 Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain:**



(Turn page)

5

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: **Refrain:**

Text: attrib. John F. Wade; **Music:** attrib. John F. Wade

Isaiah 61:1-4; 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; **to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.** They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; **all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.**

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, **so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.**

John 1:6-8; 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, *Who are you?* He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, *I am not the Messiah.* And they asked him, *What then? Are you Elijah?* He said, *I am not.* *Are you the prophet?* He answered, *No.* Then they said to him, *Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?* He said, *I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord,"* as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, *Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?* John answered them, *I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming*

(Turn page)

after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.
This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Prayer

S. Cairns & L. Shaw

O Holy One Who Comes to us,
We turn again to you. We open to you our hearts and our minds. We ask for your strength and wisdom. We ask that all may receive you in joy.

Increase in us your Holy Spirit. Sharpen our senses. Help us to see and take to heart all moments of God-radiance, when you say to us: *Look now, listen, and receive.* **Amen.**

Sermon

Pr. Kristine

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

LBW 76

O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,
Our Lord and master, you have won
Our hearts to serve you only!
Lowly, holy!
Great and glorious,
All victorious,
Rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing.



Come, heav'nly bridegroom, light divine,
 And deep within our hearts now shine;
 There light a flame undying!
 In your one body let us be
 As living branches of a tree,
 Your life our lives supplying.
 Now, though daily
 Earth's deep sadness
 May perplex us
 And distress us,
 Yet with heav'nly joy you bless us.



Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
 Our joy be all with music crowned,
 Our voices gaily blending!
 For Christ goes with us all the way—
 Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
 His love is never ending!
 Sing out! Ring out!
 Jubilation!
 Exultation!
 Tell the story!
 Great is he, the King of glory!

Text: Philipp Nicolai; tr. Hymnal version, 1978; **Music :** Philipp Nicolai

Prayers of the Church

The Church of England
 (revised)

Offering/Offertory *Silent Night*Rhonda R.: Piano
Deonne G.: Violin

*Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

LBW 65

*Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!*

*Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

Text: Joseph Mohr; tr. John F. Young; **Music:** Franz Gruber



Offering Prayer

The Hymnal 1940
J. G. Whittier

All things are yours.
No gift have we, Lord of all gifts,
To offer you.
And so, with grateful hearts today,
Your own before your feet
We lay. **Amen.**

Instruction Concerning the Lord's Supper



HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Even as we watch and wait,
Christ is here.
Come, eat and drink.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

The Meal

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

ELW 288

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale; **Music:** German carol, 14th century

Prayer after Communion

Gracious and abundant God,
you have done great things for us, and we rejoice.
In this bread and cup you give us life forever.
In your boundless mercy, strengthen us
and open our hearts to the world's needs,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**



Joy to the World

LBW 39

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive its 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.

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:** George F. Handel

Announcements & Thanksgiving

Watch!

A Christmas Story Told in Paint
 Wednesdays—December 2, 9, 16 & 23—
 3:30 PM on Channel 104

~ ~ ~

We thank All Saints Episcopal Church for their hospitality with special gratitude to Mark Heiman who makes our services possible.

We also extend our appreciation to our musicians, Rhonda Reece and Deonne Gray, as well as to Chris Adams.

A Blessed Leave-Taking

ELW 242 & 248

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night
 Though dark the winter and cheerless,
 The rising sun shall crown you with light,
 Be strong and loving and fearless.

Stars, keep the watch.

When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim
 Shining beyond the frosty weather,
 Bright as sun and moon together.
 People, look east, and sing today—
 Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth
 Him who brings new life to earth.
 Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
 With the word the Lord is coming.
 People, look east, and sing today—
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. He who was and who is and who is to come! **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

People, Look East

Rhonda Reece

A Christmas Story Told in Paint

**Wednesdays—December 2, 9, 16 & 23—
3:30 PM on Channel 104**



Northfield artist, Mark Daehlin, created this painting for the NRC Chapel last year. He will add two side panels in December. Watch Mark on Wednesdays in December. The completed work will be in the Chapel on Christmas Eve.



CELEBRATING *50 years*

***Liturgy used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license
#14651-LIT.***

Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net A-716303.

**Pastor Kristine Braaten-Lee, Chaplain (507) 664-3478
kbraatenlee@northfieldretirement.org**

**Christiana Adams, Spiritual Care Assistant (507) 664-7331
cadams@northfieldretirement.org**



**Advent Worship Calendar
10:30 AM on Channel 102**

Advent IV	12/20/2020	Annunciation Sunday: Angel Gabriel & The Virgin Mary
-----------	------------	--

**Christmas Worship Calendar
3:30 PM on Channel 105**

Christmas Eve	12/24/2020	Look & Listen: NRC Chapel
------------------	------------	------------------------------

Christmas Day	12/25/2020	Look & Listen: NRC Chapel
------------------	------------	------------------------------

**Christmas Sunday
10:30 AM on Channel 102**

First Sunday of Christmas	12/27/2020	In the Temple with Simeon & Anna
------------------------------	------------	-------------------------------------