

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 11, 2016

Worship Focus

The Coming Christ is Immanuel – God with Us!



MATTHEW 1:23

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
9807 CHURCH ROAD
DALLAS, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567
churchsec@caltex.org

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

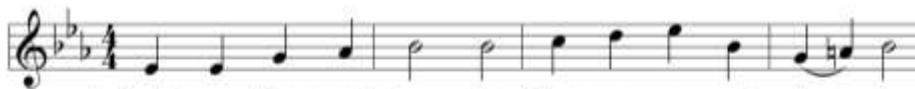
Common Service with Communion

Christian Worship, p. 15

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OPENING HYMN

17 - God's Own Son Most Holy



1 God's own Son most ho - ly Came a ser - vant low - ly,
2 Still he comes with - in us; Still his voice would win us
3 Thus, if we have known him And will not dis - own him
4 Those who then are loy - al Find a wel - come roy - al.



Came to live a - mong us, Came to suf - fer for us,
From the sins that hurt us, Would to truth con - vert us
Nor have loved him cold - ly But will trust him bold - ly,
Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re - lease us.



Bore the cross to save us, Hope and free - dom gave us,
From our fool - ish er - rors Ere he comes in ter - rors.
He will then re - ceive us, Heal us, and for - give us.
Let us here con - fess you Till in heav'n we bless you.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN (66 66 66) attr. Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534.



INVOCATION

Minister In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



Congregation A - - men.

M Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 7:10-14

Isaiah declares that the virgin birth of Immanuel will be a gracious sign from the Lord. This Immanuel is the one whose birth we anticipate this Advent season.

ISAIAH 7:10 Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”



PSALM

Psalm 24 (3 – Lift Up Your Heads, vs. 1,4)

1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be -
4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make
hold, the King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
it a tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for
draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here.
heav'n's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
Life and sal - va - tion he will bring; There -
So shall your Sov - 'reign en - ter in And
fore re - joice and glad - ly sing. To God the Fa - ther
new and no - bler life be - gin. To God a - lone be
raise Your joy - ful songs of praise,
praise For word and deed and grace!

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: MACHT HOCH DIE TÜR (88 88 88 66) Freylinghausen, *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704.



SECOND LESSON Romans 1:1-7

Paul affirms what Isaiah prophesied – Jesus Christ is both true God and true man, or “Immanuel – GOD with US.”

ROMANS 1:1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God-- ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him and for his name’s sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. ⁶ And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

M We light three Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Light of the world. He came to defeat the prince of darkness.

C **We remember Jesus, who came in answer to his people’s prayers. John proclaimed him the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.**

M We hear his call to see the light.

C **We light three Advent candles as a sign of our trust and confidence.**

M Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

Three Advent candles are lit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25

The conception and birth of Jesus by the Virgin Mary fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah. Jesus is truly Immanuel.

MATTHEW 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” -- which means, “God with us.”

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

**C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried,

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

5 – As Angels Joyed with One Accord



1 As an - gels joyed with one ac - cord Up - on
2 He came, not clothed in maj - es - ty Nor pow'r
3 This done, he soared to God's right hand, Yet or -
4 In ev - 'ry age— let praise a - bound— He comes;
5 He comes in wa - ter to the child And cleans -



the ad - vent of our Lord, So laud we all and
that suits his de - i - ty. In low - ly state he
phaned not his cho - sen band, For he, not bound in
we hear his voice re-sound. His glo - rious gos - pel
es it, from birth de - filed. This wash - ing seals his



bless the name Of him who from the Fa - ther came,
walked till he In dy - ing set us cap - tives free.
grace and pow'r, At - tends his own each day and hour.
does not cease To bring us com - fort, joy, and peace.
pard - 'ning grace And shows the Fa - ther's kind - ly face.

6 He comes to us in bread and wine
To give himself—and gifts divine.
Oh, praise him for this sacrament,
Redeeming love's great testament!

7 Lift up your heads! All grief and pain
Shall vanish when he comes again.
Where we shall see him face to face,
There joy alone shall have a place.

Text: Werner H. Franzmann, 1905-96, abr., alt. © 1993 Werner H. Franzmann. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin Melody, 15th century, adapt.

SERMON

Isaiah 7:14

His Name is a Sermon

PRAISE AND PRAYER

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- M** Come, O God, and strengthen your church and its witness to your Son. Raise up pastors, missionaries, teachers, and other church workers that the good news of your Son's appearing may be made known to all. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- M** Come, O God, and grant wisdom to the rulers of the nations, that the cause of peace and justice may be advanced, and your people may worship you with freedom. Lord in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

M Come, O God, and be present with those who are suffering in body, mind, or in spirit. Comfort all those who wait for healing, and strengthen all doctors and nurses in their care of those in need. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Come, O God, and grant protection and knowledge to those who care for us. Protect all police and firefighters and the members of our armed forces. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Come, O God, in Your supper, as you have promised, that we may live in the assurance of the forgiveness of sins for the strengthening of our faith and life. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Come, O God, and unite us in faith with all those who have gone before us in the faith, that we may look forward with hope to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

M Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

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

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - men.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

707 - Peace Came to Earth

1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night
2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
4 How else could I have known you, O my God!

When an - gels clove the sky with song and light And
The in - fant in their arms and lat - er felt The
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In
How else could I have loved you, O my God! How



God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might— Who could but
wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but
bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain— Who could but
else could I em - brace you, O my God! Who could but



gasp: Im - man - u - el! Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
sigh: Im - man - u - el! Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
see: Im - man - u - el! Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
pray: Im - man - u - el! Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

The picturesque language of this Jaroslav Vajda hymn vividly illustrates the weighty significance of God becoming man in Christ.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: PEACE CAME TO EARTH (10 10 10 88) Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952 © 2000 Birmamwood Publications (ASCAP),
a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

M We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

26 – Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
 2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
 3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
 4 Je - sus comes on clouds tri - um - phant When the heav'ns shall



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
 pass a - way. Je - sus comes a - gain in glo - ry;



Low - ly came on earth to die, Al - le - lu - ia!
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer, Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Let us, then, our hom - age pay, Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
 ev - er sing - ing Till the dawn of end - less day.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, abr., alt.

Tune: SIEH, HIER BIN ICH, EHRENKÖNIG (87 87 87) *Gelstreiches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1698.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.