

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 16, 2018

Worship Focus

He Comes, Bearing Gifts: The Gift of Joy



**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Common Service with Communion

Christian Worship, p. 15

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OPENING HYMN

7 - Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the
3 You saints, who here in pa - tience Your cross and
4 A - rise, De - sire of na - tions; O Je - sus,



lights ap - pear; The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing,
Bride - groom near; Go forth, as he ap - proach - es,
suf - f'ring bore, Shall live and reign for - ev - er
now ap - pear, The Hope and Ex - pec - ta - tion



And dark - er night is near. The Bride - groom
With al - le - lu - ias clear. The mar - riage
When sor - row is no more. A - round the
Of ev - 'ry Chris - tian here, With hearts and



is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh. Up,
feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand. A -
throne of glo - ry The Lamb you shall be - hold; In
hands up - lift - ed We plead, O Lord, to see The



pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.
tri - umph lay be - fore him Your shin - ing crowns of gold.
day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets your peo - ple free.

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722, abr.; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.
Tune: HAFTRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG (76 76 D) *Hymnal and Order of Service*, Rock Island, 1901.

INVOCATION

Gathering Rite new texts and music; © 2018 Jeremy S. Bakken. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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

Congregation Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS AND LIGHTING RITE

M When God created the world, he made the crown of his creation – the human race – in his image (Genesis 1:26). Perfect people lived in a perfect world in a perfect relationship with God.

C **But mankind rebelled against God, bringing sin into the world and death to all. God declared the wages of sin to be death (Romans 6:23). We, too, are guilty and confess our sinful thoughts, words, and actions.**

M However, God – who is Love – did not want to be separated from his children forever. He promised a Savior who would bear the punishment for sin, defeat the devil, and break the bonds of death.

**(sung) O, come, O, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

M When the time had fully come, God sent his Son. Jesus, our Savior, has paid the ransom for your debt; your sins are forgiven (Galatians 4:4,5). In view of God's mercy, today we light the *joy* candle. Though we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and even though we do not see him now, we believe in him (1 Peter 1:8).

C **And we are filled with an inexpressible an glorious *joy*, for we are receiving the end result of our faith, the salvation of our souls (1 Peter 1:8,9).**

**(sung) O, come, our Joy, whose love forgives –
Whose death assures that we will live!
Move us to heed the call, “Repent!”
And trust, for your sake, God relents.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

M In the joy of God we go to the world – to our friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. We regard no one from a worldly point of view. If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:16-18).

C **God has committed to us the ministry of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. Jesus, who had no sin, became sin for us; in him we have become the righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:19-21).**

**(sung) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray. Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Zephaniah 3:14-17

The LORD has taken away the punishment for our sins. Therefore, the prophet tells us that when we see Christ, our joy will be complete...and also that the LORD will find joy in us.

ZEPHANIAH 3:14 Sing, O Daughter of Zion;
shout aloud, O Israel!
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
O Daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.
The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.

¹⁶ On that day they will say to Jerusalem,
“Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands hang limp.

¹⁷ The LORD your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
he will quiet you with his love,
he will rejoice over you with singing.”

PSALM

Psalm 130

Music: Kevin J. Sadowski © 1992 Concordia Publishing House
Tone: Paul Bunjes © 1982 Concordia Publishing House

Refrain



Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD; Lord, hear my voice.



**Out of the depths I cry to / you, O LORD.
Lord, / hear my voice;**

**listen / closely
as I call on / you for help.**

**LORD, if you kept / track of sins,
O Lord, / who could stand?**

**But with you there is for-/givenness
in order that you / may be feared. *Refrain***

**I wait for the LORD, my / soul waits,
and in his Word I / put my hope.**

**More than watchers wait for / morning
my soul waits / for the Lord.**

**Israel, put your hope / in the LORD
for with the LORD is / faithful love;**

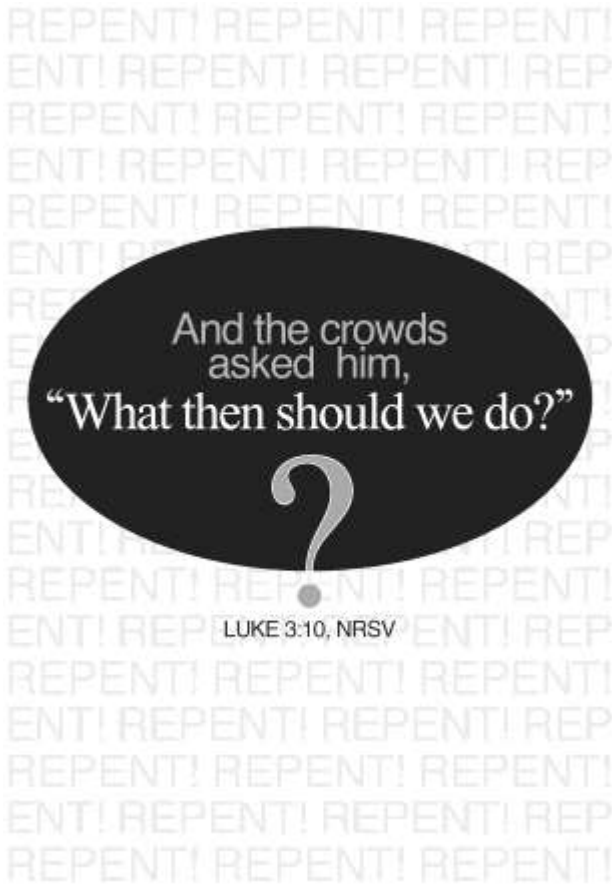
**with him is complete re-/demption.
He will redeem Israel from the guilt of / all their sins.**

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the / Holy Spirit,
as it was in the be-/ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

SECOND LESSON Philippians 4:4-7

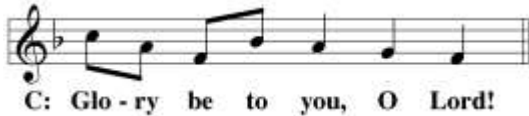
Because our sins have been forgiven, Christ is always near us. We have the peace of knowing we will live forever with him. Therefore, we can live joyfully instead of anxiously, no matter our earthly circumstances.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



GOSPEL Luke 3:7-18

Repentance is a joyful activity. While contrite about sin, we rejoice that we have a Savior. We joyfully turn to him in faith. In gratitude, we joyfully produce fruits of repentance.

LUKE 3:7 John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.”

¹² Tax collectors also came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

¹³ “Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

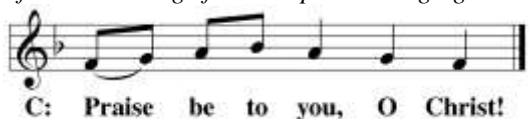
¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?”

He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.”

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ. ¹⁶ John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

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

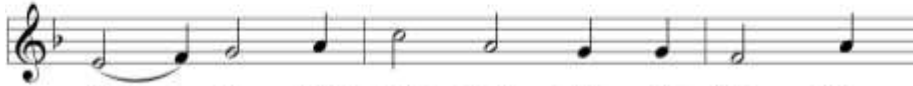
14 - Arise, O Christian People



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre -
 2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him; Pre -
 3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God
 4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; Turn



pare your - selves to - day. Pre - pare to greet the
 pare for him the best. Cast - out what would of -
 rais - es up on high; Be - neath his feet in
 not from me a - side, And help me to re -



Sav - ior, Who takes your sins a - way. To
 fend him, This great, this heav'n - ly guest. Make
 ter - ror The haugh - ty soul shall lie. The
 ceive you This bless - ed Ad - vent - tide. From



us by grace a - lone The truth and
 straight, make plain the way; The low - ly
 heart sin - cere and right, That heeds God's
 stall and man - ger low Come now to



light were giv - en; The prom - ised Lord from
 val - leys rais - ing, The heights of pride a -
 in - vi - ta - tion And makes true prep - a -
 dwell with - in me; I'll sing your prais - es



heav - en To all the world is shown.
 bas - ing, His path all e - ven lay.
 ra - tion— It is the Lord's de - light.
 glad - ly And forth your glo - ry show.

SERMON

Luke 3:7-18

If You Understand Repentance, You'll Know Joy

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

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

God, our Father, Your Son bids us to pray with confidence. Give us Your Spirit to see You in the person of Your Son, knowing that He and none other is the One who came to bear our sins and be our Savior. Encourage us in true faith and fill us with joy, knowing He will come again to make all things new. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, send laborers into the harvest — pastors, missionaries, teachers and other servants of the Word — to declare Your Law and proclaim Your saving Gospel in Christ Jesus, that Your name may be hallowed. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, You graciously rule Your people even as Your strong arm keeps evil at bay through right governance in this world. Bless and guide all who are in authority to rule justly, and give Your Spirit to Your people, that we may believe Your Word and live holy lives. Sustain the faith of all who suffer mockery, persecution and death for the name of Christ, and keep us in true faith in Your Kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Wise Father, Your will is done without our prayer. Turn our hearts to You, so that we trust Your wise counsel in all things and trust Your good and gracious providence in our daily lives even as You bring us to eternal life. Open our hearts to all Your promises, that we may know Your will and receive Your gifts in the Gospel and the Sacraments in true faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Kind Father, Your Son gave bread to the hungry, sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf; He made the lame to walk and cleansed lepers; He raised the dead and preached Good News to the poor. Help again Your suffering people — the hungry, the poor and unemployed, the sick, the dying, the grieving and all who are anxious of heart [*especially* _____]. Graciously give them all that they need for their well-being, give them ears to hear the Good News of life and salvation, and quiet their fears with Your love. Lead us to receive Your daily gifts — our daily bread — with thankful hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES

M The Lord be with you.



M Lift up your hearts.



M Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Sanctus*)



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
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

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord’s Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord’s Supper.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

3 – Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be -
 2 The King is born in pov - er - ty, His
 3 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, Where
 4 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; Make
 5 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide My



hold, the King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
 char - iot is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is
 Christ the rul - er is con - fessed! O peace - ful hearts and
 it a tem - ple set a - part From earth - ly use for
 heart to you; here, Lord, a - bide! Oh, en - ter with your



draw - ing near; The Sav - ior of the world is here.
 ho - li - ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress.
 hap - py homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes!
 heav'n's em - ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy,
 sav - ing grace; Show me your kind and friend - ly face.



Life and sal - va - tion he will bring; There -
 The end of all our woe he brings; There -
 The cloud - less sun of joy is he Who
 So shall your Sov - 'reign en - ter in And
 Your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on Un -



fore re - joyce and glad - ly sing. To God the Fa - ther
 fore the earth is glad - ly sings. To Christ the Sav - ior
 comes to set his peo - ple free. To God the Spir - it
 new and no - bler life be - gin. To God a - lone be
 til our glo - rious goal is won. E - ter - nal praise and

raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.
 raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.
 raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.
 praise For word and deed and grace!
 fame We of - fer to your name.

Text: Georg Weissel, 1590–1635; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: MACHT HOCH DIE TUR (888 88 88 66) Freylinghausen, *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704.

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

27 - O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are



1 O Je - sus, Lamb of God, you are My com - fort
2 O Lord, my sin in - deed is great; I groan be -
3 Saint John the Bap - tist points to you And bids me
4 Help me to change my ways, O Lord, And glad - ly



and my guid - ing star; I come, a sin - ner,
neath the dread - ful weight. Be mer - ci - ful to
cast my sin on you, For you have left your
to o - bey your Word. While here I live, a -



trust - ing - ly And bring my man - y sins with me,
me, I pray; Take guilt and pun - ish - ment a - way.
throne on high To suf - fer for the world and die,
bide with me, Then take me home e - ter - nal - ly.

TEXT: Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
TUNE: WEIMAR (LM) C. P. E. Bach, 1714–88.

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



**REJOICE
IN THE
LORD
ALWAYS.
I WILL SAY
IT AGAIN:
REJOICE!**

PHILIPPIANS 4:4. NIV

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2018

“O Come, Let Us Adore Him!”

December 15,16	Advent 3	Regular weekend schedule
December 16	Calvary Christmas Concert	4:00 p.m.
December 19	Midweek Advent	7:00 p.m.
December 21	Children’s Christmas Service	7:00 p.m.
December 22,23	Advent 4	Regular weekend schedule
December 24	Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols	7:00 p.m.
	Christmas Eve Candlelight Compline	11:00 p.m.
December 25	Christmas Day Festival with the Lord’s Supper	9:30 a.m.
December 29,30	1 st Sunday after Christmas	Regular weekend schedule
December 31	New Year’s Eve with the Lord’s Supper	7:00 p.m.