



WORSHIP BULLETIN
RITE II SERVICE, 10:00AM
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 12, 2021

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

OPENING HYMN *O come, O come, Emmanuel* The Hymnal 1982 #56, Vss. 5-6

ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING

Presider This is the third Sunday in Advent, a time of longing for God's presence among us. The third Sunday of Advent is the Sunday of **JOY**. The joy that pours into our hearts is a gift from God, as it was with Mary when she beheld the birth of her child. The coming of the Christ-Child reminds us of the gift of joy that God has given to us.

(We light two blue Advent Candles and the rose Advent Candle)

People **O Key of David, the joy of the world, come and bring light into our hearts.**

Presider Beloved in Christ, in the season of Advent, let the light of Christ so enter our hearts and minds, that with Mary and Joseph we may know the Joy born to us, and hasten to Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

WELCOME & OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

MAGNIFICAT

All **My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

THE COLLECT OF DAY

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Presider Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT

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 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9 - THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH

ISAIAH 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

THE NEW TESTAMENT

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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN *Watchman, tell us of the Night* The Hymnal 1982 #640, Vss. 1-2

GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

GRADUAL HYMN *Watchman, tell us of the Night* The Hymnal 1982 #640, Vs. 3

HOMILY *A time of silence follows the homily.* The Rev. Alex Leach

NICENE CREED EOW, p. 53

All 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 truly 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider God of many names, God beyond all names; the beginning and the end of every story, the meaning of every life; infinite Mystery both hidden and revealed:

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Intercessor Blessed are You who join us together in the communion of Christ's Body. Renew and energize your holy Church, in this parish and throughout the world, that we may be an incarnational people, manifesting your steadfast love in our common life of praise and service.

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Intercessor O perfect Wisdom, direct and rule the hearts of the leaders and shapers of society, raise up prophets of justice and peace, and empower your people for the holy vocation of repairing the world.

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Intercessor O Creator of All, may our longing to know your presence among us kindle in our hearts a desire to know your presence in all of creation. Help us to honor the Earth, and recognize that your Reign of Peace and Justice is for the whole Earth.

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Intercessor God who has come, God who does come, God who is yet to come: Make us here at St. Luke's an Advent people, ready and alert to welcome and receive You in the stranger's face, the loving act, the moment of grace, the presence of healing, the birth of possibility, the gift of wonder. May our hearts prepare You room.

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Intercessor O Compassionate One, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle. Resurrect their hope, grant them peace, and restore their joy.

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Intercessor O Lover of souls, embrace all those who have died. Preserve them in your love so that we may be joined with them again in the fullness of time in Your resurrected Kingdom. And shine your light upon all those who mourn the loss of loved ones during these holiday times.

People **Hear us when we pray to you.**

Presider O Emmanuel, God-with-us, You show us the face of divinity, and reveal the fullness of our humanity. Come: renew your creation, restore us all in Christ, and enable us to become who we are, your faithful and loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus. ***Amen.***

Adapted from Jim Friedrich, Episcopal Priest, for General Use.

CONFESSION

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.

People **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

BIRTHDAYS, CELEBRATIONS, AND MILESTONES

Presider Watch over your child(ren), O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever *they* may be. Strengthen *them* when *they* stand; comfort *them* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if *they* fall; and in *their* heart may your peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Presider But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15,16*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

EOW P. 60-62

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep

and brought all things into being:

sun, moon, and stars;

earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

You made us in your image,

and taught us to walk in your ways.

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away;

and yet, as a mother cares for her children,

you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us

to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels

in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity,

lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death
and to reveal the riches of your grace,
you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant,
that she might conceive and bear a son,
Jesus the holy child of God.
Living among us, Jesus loved us.
He broke bread with outcasts and sinners,
healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.
He yearned to draw all the world to himself
yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.
Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross
the sacrifice of his life,
and to be glorified by you.

Presider On the night before he died for us,
Jesus was at table with his friends.
He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and gave it to them, and said:
“Take, eat:
This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”
As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.
Again, he gave thanks to you,
gave it to them, and said:
“Drink this, all of you:
This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me.”
Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation,
and remembering Christ, crucified and risen,
who was and is and is to come,
we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine,
and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ.
Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth
and make us your new creation,
the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us,
with St. Luke all your saints,
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
to feast at the banquet prepared
from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
to you be honor, glory, and praise,
for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **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,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A brief silence

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

For those at home or who do not wish to receive bread, we offer this prayer of spiritual communion:

Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Creator and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN *There's a voice in the wilderness crying* The Hymnal 1982 #75

SENDING OF THE EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Presider In the name of God and this community, we send you forth bearing these Holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share bread, one cup.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Presider Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and
singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FINAL BLESSING

Presider May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

CONCLUDING HYMN *Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding* The Hymnal 1982 #59, Vss. 1-3

THE DISMISSAL

Presider Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Coffee Hour will immediately follow the service.

Upcoming Events

Alex's Spiritual Practices Class, Dec. 12 & 19, 11:15am in the Sanctuary

Advent Labyrinth Service, December 12, 4:30 pm on the Labyrinth

Drum Circle, following the Advent Labyrinth Service, Labyrinth

Christmas Services

December 24, 2021

4:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Includes children's pageant and carols - All children welcome.

7:30pm Indoor Christmas Caroling

8:00pm Festive Christmas Eve Service

December 25, 2021

10:00am Christmas Day Service

Visit our website for information on how to be involved
www.stlukeswoodland.org

*Sign up for weekly e-mail updates for information on opportunities to help and to learn.
Contact our Church Administrator for details, at stlukechurchwoodland@gmail.com*

Weekly Meetings

- **Centering Prayer, Sundays, 7pm, Sanctuary**, contact Tom Eaton
- **Book Study, Mondays, 5:15pm, via Zoom**, contact Tom Eaton
- **Choir Practice, Wednesdays, 6pm, Sanctuary**
- **“A Journey through Acts”, Wednesdays, 7:15 pm, via Zoom**, contact Margaret

Monthly Meetings

- **Resource Navigators**
Next meeting Feb. 7, 2022, 3:30-5pm, Guild Hall,
stlukechurchwoodland@gmail.com or 530-662-7152 x3
- **Temenos**
2nd & 4th Saturdays, 8am – Noon, Welcome anytime! brucewatts1@me.com
- **Temenos Drum Circle , Decembers Circle will be held at the Church**
2nd Sundays, 4:30pm
- **Daughters of the King**
2nd Saturdays, 10-11:30am, Guild Hall
stlukechurchwoodland@gmail.com or 530-662-7152 x3
- **Men’s Group**
2nd Saturdays, 8:30am, mackw0414@gmail.com
- **Outreach Breakfast at 4th & Hope**
1st Saturdays, 4th & Hope, mackw0414@gmail.com
- **Micah Forum**
2nd Tuesdays, 6pm, leannherig@gmail.com
- **Vestry Meeting**
3rd Mondays, 6:30pm, Guild Hall
- **Becoming the Beloved Community Study Group**
4th Tuesdays, 6:15-7:30pm, leannherig@gmail.com