

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DECEMBER 12, 2021

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father,
and of ✝ the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GAUDETE “REJOICE” SUNDAY

“Gaudete”

—Piae Cantiones, 1582

Celebration Choir, David Phelps, drum

Gaudete, Gaudete!	Rejoice, Rejoice!
Christus et natus	Christ is born
Ex maria virgine,	Of the virgin Mary,
Gaudete!	Rejoice!

Tempus ad est gratiae,	It is now the time of grace
Hoc quod optabamus;	That we have desired;
Carmina laetitiae,	Let us sing songs of joy,
Devote redamus.	Let us give devotion.

Deus homo factus est,	God was made man,
Natura mirante;	And nature marvels;
Mundus renovatus est	The world was renewed
A Christo regnante.	By Christ who is King.

Ezechiellis porta	The closed gate of Ezechiel
Clausa pertransitur;	Has been passed through;
Unde lux est orta	From where the light rises
Salus invenitur.	Salvation is found.

Ergo nostra cantio,	Therefore let our assembly now sing,
Psallat iam in lustro;	Sing the Psalms to purify us;
Benedicat Domino:	Let it praise the Lord:
Salus Regi nostro.	Greetings to our King.

***BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Let us pray. Blessed are you, God of might and majesty, for you promise to make the desert rejoice and blossom, to watch over the strangers, and to set the prisoners free.

As we light these candles, satisfy our hunger with your good gifts, open our eyes to the great things you have done for us, and fill us with patience until the coming of the Lord Jesus.

O ransomed people of the Lord, come,
**let us travel on God's holy way
and enter into Zion with singing. Amen.**

Light two blue and one pink candles.

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW # 257

Text: *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite

Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

**O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new.**

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Let us pray. 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, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

HANDBELL MEDITATION

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

–Cathy Moglebust

Resurrection Bells

READING: Philippians 4:4-7

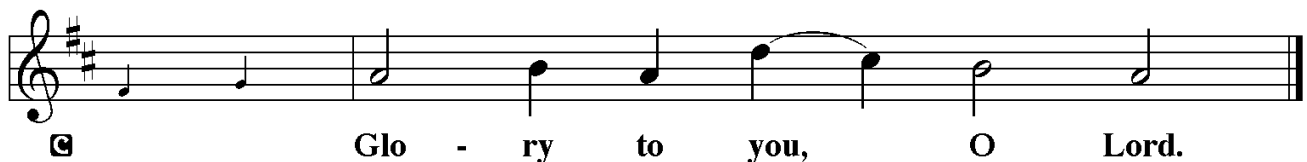
⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL Luke 3:7-18

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.



⁷John 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?”

⁸Bear 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. ⁹Even 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.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.”

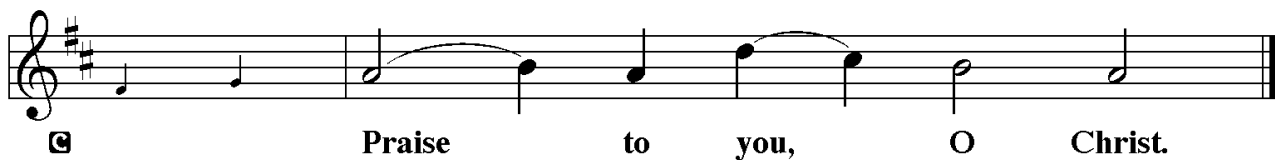
¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And

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.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord.



DWELLING IN THE WORD

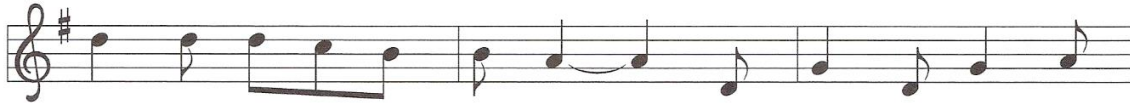
HOMILY “What Should We Do?”

Vicar Jamie Witt

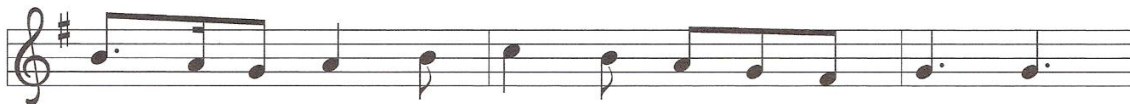
***SONG OF THE DAY** "Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn" ELW
 # 242 stanzas 1, 3, 4



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



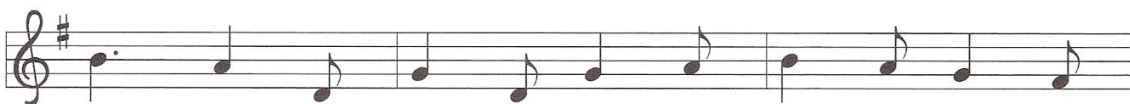
an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



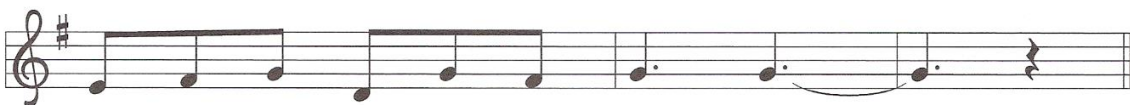
soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc.

REJOICE, REJOICE
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THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

This morning we welcome Rowan Sean Justice into God's family.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace to congregations and seminarians in the midst of transition. Guide the work of candidacy and call committees.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, your Spirit brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Breathe life into us, that we are inspired to live in harmony with one another and the planet.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Shepherding God, you lead your people in paths of righteousness. Raise up prophets in our own day who warn against captivity to greed and point us to the freedom found in generosity.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurturing God, you come near in times of worry and need. Cradle us in your arms, that we trust you and are not afraid. Attend to any who are hungry, imprisoned, or ill this day; we especially lift up to you those on our hearts who are suffering in mind, body or spirit.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect.
Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

***EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion”

–Kenneth T Kosche

Text: Zechariah 9:9a, b, Psalm 118:26a (NIV,alt) © 1993 Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118-3968. All rights reserved. One License # A-701897

*Rejoice, rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king, your king comes to you,
Righteous and having salvation, salvation.
(repeat)*

*Rejoice, rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king, your king comes to you,
Righteous and having salvation, salvation.*

*Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name,
Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name,
The name of the Lord.*

*Rejoice, rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king, your king comes to you,
Righteous and having salvation, salvation.
Rejoice, rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, daughter of Jerusalem!
Rejoice, rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout, daughter of Jerusalem!*

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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**

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONGS

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

ELW # 490

Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-1885, alt.; Public Domain

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descending
comes full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the body and the blood,
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heav'nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way;
as the Light of light, descending
from the realms of endless day,
comes, the pow'rs of hell to vanquish,
as the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"**

COMMUNION HYMN "People Look East" ELW # 248

Text: Eleanor E. Farjeon, 1881-1965

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**People, look east.
The time is near
of the crowning of the year.**

**Make your house fair
as you are able,
trim the hearth
and set the table.**

People, look east,
and sing today—
Love, the Guest,
is on the way.

Furrows, be glad.
Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.

Give up your strength
the seed to nourish,
that in course
the flow'r may flourish.

People, look east,
and sing today—
Love, the Rose,
is on the way.

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.

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

***SENDING PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, ✝ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“The Rejoicing”

–Gordon Young



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