



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent | Lessons & Carols

*Behold!*

December 13 and 16, 2018



**In the name of our Lord Jesus, welcome!** We pray that within our church you will find the quiet assurance of God's presence, the warmth of Christian fellowship, and the abiding truth of God's Word. Come worship with us again!

#### **FOR VISITORS**

- **Visitor Cards:** If this is your first visit to Zion, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor card. You will find them in the pew racks and on the media counter in the lobby.
- **Restrooms:** The main restrooms are located just off the lobby. A family restroom is located down the hall from the library.
- **Parents:** You may use the library, lobby or fellowship hall for nursing or other childcare. Changing stations are provided in all restrooms.
- **Sound:** Hearing assistance is available for your use. Both the sanctuary and fellowship hall are equipped with hearing loops. Please set your hearing aid to the T (telecoil) setting. Portable audio receivers are also available from the ushers.
- **Information:** The media counter is located in the entryway. Here you will find magazines, brochures, devotional booklets, children's bulletins, and more.

#### **FOR THOSE ATTENDING WORSHIP**

- **Contact:** Our pastors and principal are here to serve you. Contact information is provided below.
- Please remember to silence your cell phone.
- Please be considerate of people who are meditating in the sanctuary before the service begins.

#### **SERVING TODAY**

Preaching .....	Pastor Timothy Schwartz
Presiding .....	Pastor Robert Wilke
Organist.....	Marie Becker
Ushers (8:00) .....	Jim Greiling, Matt Greiling, Mike Sommer, John Brey, Bob Marousek
Ushers (10:30) .....	Jim Kluetzman, Matt Huber, Carter Huber, Michael Uttech, Rodney Cooley, ..... Gary Schuhmacher, Gabe Uttech
Communion Assistant (8:00).....	Matt Yaroch
Communion Assistant (10:30).....	Dave Harle
Greeters (8:00).....	Waldamar Vick
Greeters (10:30).....	Laurie Kirchberg and Pat Premo
Video .....	Phil Manteufel

#### **CONTACT US**

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## DIVINE SERVICE I

### PRESERVICE

#### BELL CHOIR:

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
Savior of the Nations, Come  
The King Shall Come*

arr. Mary Kluetzman  
arr. Sondra K. Tucker  
arr. Cathy Moklebust

#### HANDCHIMES:

*Advent Anticipation*

arr. Karissa Dennis

### PASTOR'S WELCOME

#### OPENING HYMN | Thursday

*Comfort, Comfort All My People | CW 11*

#### JUNIOR CHOIR | Sunday

*Prepare ye the way of the Lord!  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!  
He is coming to save us, redeem us, forgive us,  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!  
Isaiah the prophet once said  
Isaiah the prophet once said:  
"The glory of the Lord shall be revealed."  
Isaiah the prophet once said.*

"Prepare Ye!" | Karin Thomas Shovic

*Hallelujah, he is coming!  
Hallelujah, Christ the King.  
Hallelujah, he is coming!  
Hallelujah, Christ the King!  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!  
Wonderful Counselor, Prince of Peace,  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord, of the Lord  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord! Prepare!*

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

### CONFESSON OF SINS

- 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***

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men.

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: **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also 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: **Amen.**



**LESSONS**

**FIRST LESSON**

Genesis 4:1, 2, 6-8, 25-5:5 | HCSB

**A**dam was intimate with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain. She said, "I have had a male child with the Lord's help."

**A**²Then she also gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel became a shepherd of flocks, but Cain worked the ground.

<sup>6</sup>Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you furious? And why do you look despondent? <sup>7</sup>If you do what is right, won't you be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

<sup>8</sup>Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

<sup>25</sup>Adam was intimate with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, for she said, "God has given me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him." <sup>26</sup>A

son was born to Seth also, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on the name of Yahweh.

**5** These are the family records of the descendants of Adam. On the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God; **2** He created them male and female. When they were created, He blessed them and called them man.

**3** Adam was 130 years old when he fathered a son in his likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. **4** Adam lived 800 years after the birth of Seth, and he fathered other sons and daughters. **5** So Adam's life lasted 930 years; then he died.

## BELL CHOIR

*Of the Father's Love Begotten* | arr. John A. Behnke

## SECOND LESSON

Revelation 12:1-6 | NIV

**A** great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. **2** She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. **3** Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. **4** Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. **5** She gave birth to a son, a male child, who "will rule all the nations with an iron scepter." And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. **6** The woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days.

## CHOIR

*Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus* | arr. Lee Dengler  
Words by Charles Wesley and Susan Naus Dengler

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*Come, Thou long-awaited Savior! Let redemption's work begin.  
How we yearn to know Thy favor! How we long for peace within!  
Lead us to Thy holy mountain where we'll learn Thy ways to know.  
Lead us to that cleansing fountain where Thy healing waters flow.*

*Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing. Come Thou spring of endless love.  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing flow to earth from heav'n above.  
Come, O come, Thou blessed Child divine! Come, O come, Thou Son of grace.  
Born to save us, born to free us. How we long to see Thy face.  
How we long to see Thy face.*

*Born Thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet, a king.  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal spirit, rule in all our hearts alone.  
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne!*

M: The Gospel according to Luke chapter 1.



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

## GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:39-55 | NIV

**A**t that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea,<sup>40</sup> where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.<sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.<sup>42</sup> In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!<sup>43</sup> But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?<sup>44</sup> As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.<sup>45</sup> Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord  
<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup> for he has been mindful  
of the humble state of his servant.  
From now on all generations will call me blessed,  
<sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me—  
    holy is his name.  
<sup>50</sup> His mercy extends to those who fear him,  
    from generation to generation.  
<sup>51</sup> He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;  
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.  
<sup>52</sup> He has brought down rulers from their thrones  
    but has lifted up the humble.  
<sup>53</sup> He has filled the hungry with good things  
    but has sent the rich away empty.  
<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
    remembering to be merciful  
<sup>55</sup> to Abraham and his descendants forever,  
    just as he promised our ancestors."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

## NICENE CREED

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

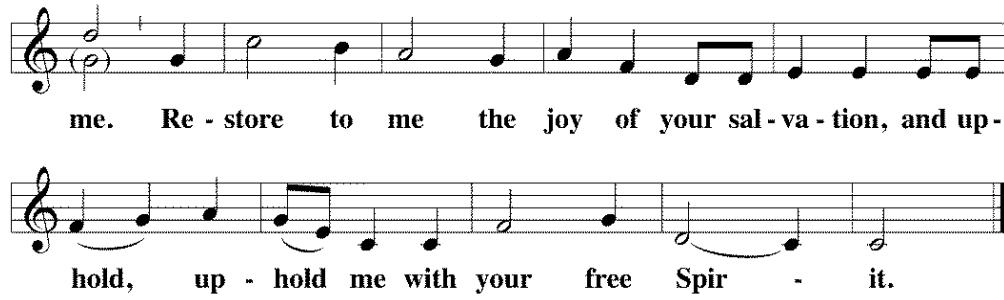
*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* | CW 24

## SERMON

*See the Signs of the Season* | Revelation 12:1-6 | NIV

*After the sermon, the congregation sings:*

Cre - ate in me a  
pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -  
in me. Do not cast me a - way from your  
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



**OFFERING  
BELL CHOIR**

*Prepare the Royal Highway | .arr. Sondra K. Tucker*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

M: Heavenly Father, source of all our spiritual and material blessings, as we find ourselves in the season of holidays, keep this holiday season holy in our hearts. May our every attitude, decision, word and action be devoted to you in anticipation of the arrival of your Son, Jesus Christ. Accept our offerings today as expressions of hearts that trust you and you alone.

C: **Amen.**

**RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their need.

*Brief silence*

M: Almighty God, we praise you that by your Holy Spirit, Elizabeth greeted Mary as "the mother of my Lord" while the unborn John leaped with joy in the presence of your Son in Mary's womb. Increase in us your Spirit, that our faith may bear abundant fruit. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, we praise you that you are Father to the fatherless and that you provide for the poor when all others have forgotten them. Graciously watch over the hungry, the poor and the unemployed. Move us to serve you in showing mercy to all those in need, near and far. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

*Requested prayers*

M: Almighty God, we praise you that you feed those who hunger and thirst for righteousness with the body and blood of your dear Son. By your Holy Spirit, prepare us again to receive His Sacrament in true faith for the forgiveness of sins and the strength for our service to you and one another. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

M: Into your hands, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.**



### THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places

C: **give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God,**

M: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance

C: **and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.**

M: Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven,

C: **we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:**

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY | *Sanctus*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -  
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na in the high - est. 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 (<sup>†</sup>) 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 (<sup>†</sup>) 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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD | *Agnus Dei*

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G clef and common time. The first staff begins with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes. The second staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics are as follows:

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. A - men.

COMMUNING AT ZION

COMMUNION: If you are visiting today we ask you to speak to one of our pastors before communing.

We follow the Biblical, ancient custom of close communion (also called "member communion").

CONFESION: Receiving Holy Communion is a statement of faith. Any person who takes communion with a group of believers is publicly saying, "I believe everything this church teaches."

INSTRUCTION: In order for people to understand the teachings that they are confessing when they take communion, we offer classes on the Christian faith in our church (and all of our WELS and ELS churches). We ask all visitors who have not yet received such instruction to first go through the classes before taking part in the Lord's Supper.

## DISTRIBUTION

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*When Sinners See Their Lost Condition* | CW 32  
*Oh, Come, Oh, Oh Come, Emmanuel* | CW 23

### SONG OF SIMEON | *Nunc Dimittis*



In peace, Lord, you let your  
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord-ing to your word. For my  
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre-pared for  
ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the  
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## THE BLESSING

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: **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*Savior, of the Nations, Come* | CW 2

### Acknowledgements

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## THE ADVENT WREATH

Many different traditions and meanings have developed for the progressive lighting of an Advent wreath during the season leading up to Christmas. Here are the meanings we have customarily assigned to each of the five candles, each one reminding us of a biblical truth regarding the birth of Jesus:



**PROPHECY** The first candle on our Advent wreath that we light each year is called the “prophecy candle.” We light it to remind us of all the promises which the Lord made to send a Savior to rescue them from the darkness of sin. *Isaiah 9:2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.*

**BETHLEHEM** With the lighting of our second Advent candle, we remember that God planned out the details of our salvation long in advance of Jesus’ coming, down to the place where he would be born: *Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."*

**SHEPHERDS** The third candle we light is called the shepherds’ candle. As we light it, we recall the joy we share with the first people on earth who heard that the Savior had been born and went to see him face to face. *"When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them."* (Luke 2:17–18, NIV)

**ANGELS** With our fourth candle, we remember the angel who foretold the birth of Jesus *"The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God."* (Luke 1:35, NIV) and the angels who lit up the night sky to announce Jesus’ birth *"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."* (Luke 2:10–11, NIV).

**CHRIST** The fifth candle, one of white, reminds us of the purity of Jesus, our Savior born to take away our sin and give us his righteousness and eternal life. *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16, NIV)