

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP
December 13, 2020
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Please follow the ushers' direction on seating. We will maintain at least 6 feet between individuals unless you come as a family who live together.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Prepare the Royal Highway" – G. Winston Cassler

P. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

CONFESSION:

C. Almighty God, I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I have sinned by what I have done and what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. Forgive me. Renew me. Lead me. I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who suffered for us all and was raised from the dead, that first Easter. Amen.

P. It is always my honor and privilege to announce that God has freely forgiven you and me. We stand here, trusting, by God's grace alone. We stand here as free men and women, boys and girls. May the wind of Pentecost move our hearts and our hands.

C. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Prepare the Royal Highway"

1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

Refrain

Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!

3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: *Refrain*

4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: *Refrain*

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Used by permission. OneLicense #A-735664

APOSTOLIC GREETING:

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord God, help us to realize what we are not, as well as what we are. Shape our expectations according to your will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

BIBLE READINGS**SERMON:**

Pastor Larry Isbell

HYMN OF THE DAY: “On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry”

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
oh, let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the dead,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(At the end of each petition, the leader will say "Lord, in your mercy." Feel free to respond with "Hear our prayer.")

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**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.**

BENEDICTION:

P. Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*
- 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

DISMISSAL:

- P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
C. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: “People Look East” – Kristina Langlois

*(Please exit row by row, beginning with the back.
Talk to others from a distance in the parking lot.)*

Today's altar flowers are given by Theresa & Gary Forkert in honor of Carson's 2nd birthday, and by Jim & Susie Huntington in honor of their daughter Amy's birthday.