

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP
December 12, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawn” – Theodore Beck

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.

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

You may either stand or kneel.

P: Holy and loving God,
 here, in public worship, we confess
 our sins We fall short of your
 intentions for us.

**C: We find it hard to believe your good news
 is for us. We fail to care for all the gifts
 you give us—our time, our talent, and
 our possessions. We fall short of your
 intentions for us.**

P: We fail to truly see our neighbors.
 We look past the stranger.

**C: We find it convenient to be self-righteous
 when it comes to politics and ethics.**

P: Forgive us Lord God! Help us to do
 better—to be better. We ask through
 Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, the
 One who emptied himself just to be
 with us and save us.

C: Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

P: Paul teaches us in Romans chapter 5: If in Adam and Eve all have died—so now--in Jesus Christ--all are made alive. Let us rejoice in the lifegiving power of God's unconditional love. Our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emanuel"



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE:



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re-ceive our prayer. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord God, stir up the wills of your people that joy might lead to repentance. Open our ears, our hearts, and our hands through the gift of The Holy Spirit. Amen.

BIBLE READINGS*See back of bulletin**After the reading of the Gospel:*

P. The Gospel of the Lord”

C. Praise to you O Christ.**SERMON: “Brighten the Corner Where You Are”****Pastor Larry Isbell****HYMN OF THE DAY: “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!”**

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! “Christ is near,” we hear it say.
 2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn-ing, from earth’s bond-age let us rise;
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, come with par-don down from heav’n.
 4 So, when next he comes in glo-ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son



“Cast a-way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!”
 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.
 Let us haste, with tears of sor-row, one and all, to be for-giv’n;
 he will shield us with his mer-cy and with words of love draw near.
 with the ev-er-last-ing Spir-it while un-end-ing a-ges run!



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
 Music: William H. Monk, 1823–1889

MERTON
 87 87

APOSTLES' CREED:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 body,

and the life everlasting. Amen

**CHOIR ANTHEM: "Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain" – Carolyn Jennings
Soloist: Sue McKinley**

*Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
Lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you.*

*He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.*

*He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
From time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, your Lord!*

*He will come in power and glory, he will rule with mercy and truth,
Hope of the nations, Light of the world, Light of all.*

*He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms.
Love and trust him as a child, Behold, your Lord comes to you.*

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 BLESSING OF THE OFFERING**COMMUNION LITURGY**

P. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

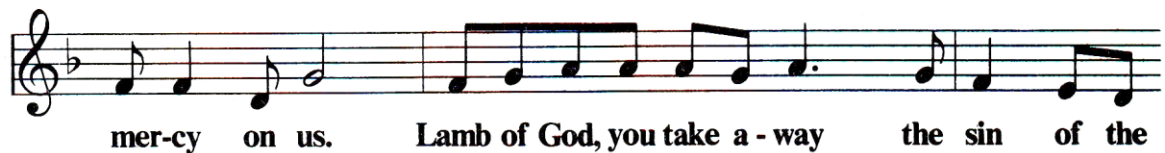
Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION:

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.

As you approach the altar rail, please keep a good space between yourself and others. The floor is marked where you may stand or kneel.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

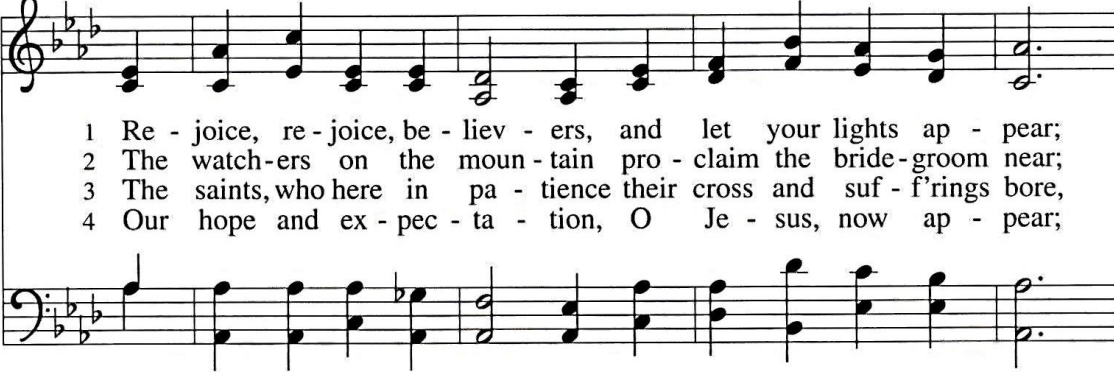
P. Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift – in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

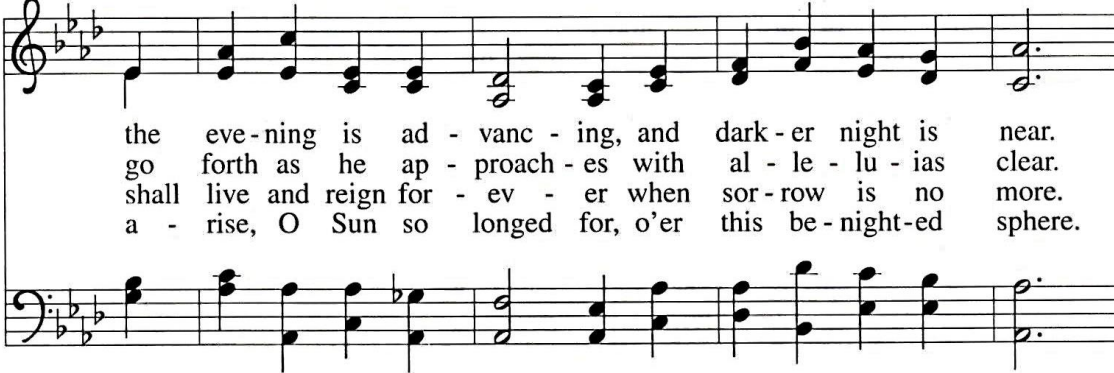
BENEDICTION:

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.

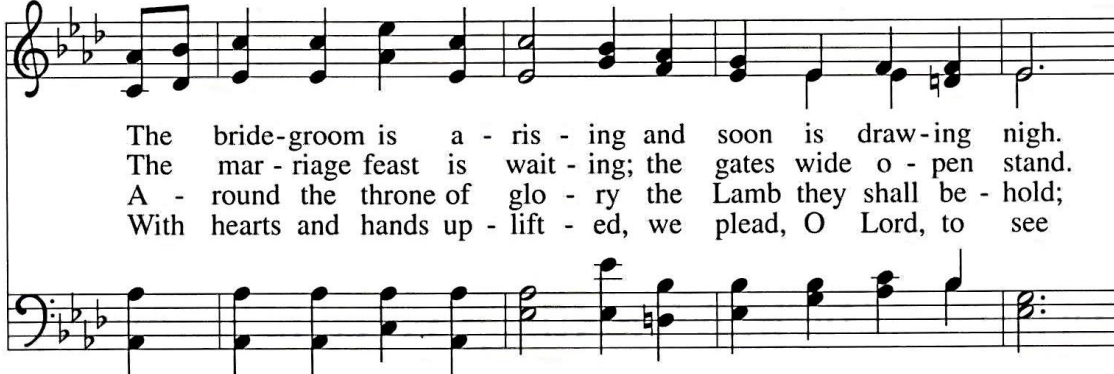
C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”


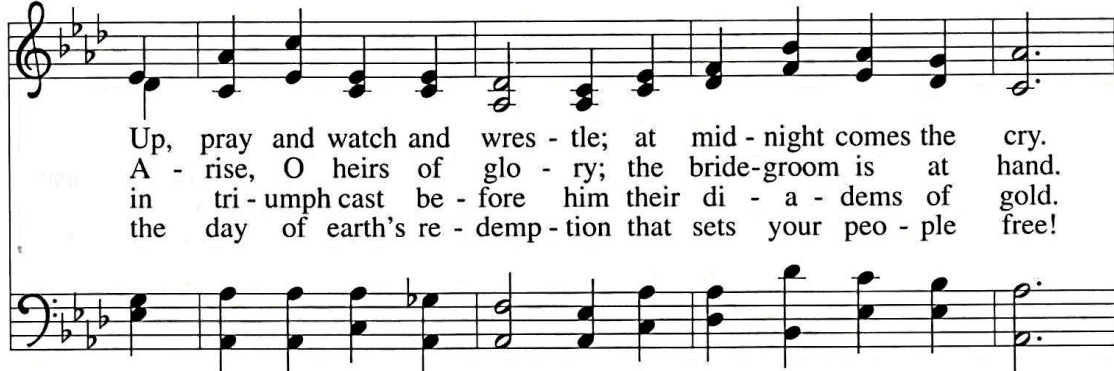
1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

DISMISSAL:

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: “People Look East” – Kristina Langlois

Today’s altar flowers are offered to the glory of God.