

St. Andrew's Church  
Sunday, December 15, 2024

# The Third Sunday of Advent



**Sunday, December 15, 2024**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Zoom link for Live Broadcast:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82677651018?pwd=d1NSZ2V4NTVtMnFJaGp0Mm5GdTZrQT09>

By phone: +1 646-558-8656 (New York) or +1-312-626-6799 (Chicago) TOLL CHARGES MAY APPLY.

Meeting ID: 826 7765 1018

Passcode: 454700

**TODAY IN WORSHIP**

**Worship Leader:** Pastor Thomas Neel  
**Organist:** Mark Jonkman  
**Audio-Video Production:** John Costanzo  
**Ushers:** Ed Schaeffer and Ron Roth  
**Greeter:** Steve Dutko  
**Church Time Nursery:** Deb Henry and David Abel

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**C Amen.**

**P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**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



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 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.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 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.  
*Refrain*  
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

**A** 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.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

**FIRST READING**

**L** A reading from Zephaniah, Chapter 3.

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup> 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 <sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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.

**L** Word of God, word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

**HYMN**      *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (Stanza 3)      Hymnal #240

### SECOND READING

L      A reading from Philippians, Chapter 4.

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

L      Word of God, word of life.

**C      Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**      Emmanuel      See Bulletin Page 12

### GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

P      The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.

**C      Glory to you, O Lord.**

P      <sup>7</sup> 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? <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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."

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup> 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."

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people

P      The gospel of the Lord.

**C      Praise to you, O Christ.**

### CHILDREN'S TIME

#### SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

**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 body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**FREE PRAYERS****PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always

C And also with you.

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERING**

**ANTHEM**            **Guard Him Joseph**            Chancel Choir

**OFFERING SONG**    *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heav - en 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.

P Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty. When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy. At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace. Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith, increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

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

**C 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.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

*Please be seated.*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

**Hymns during distribution:**

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>I Received the Living God</b>         | Hymnal #477 |
| <b>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence</b> | Hymnal #490 |
| <b>O Bread of Life From Heaven</b>       | Hymnal #480 |

*Holy Communion will be celebrated at the base of the steps this day or at your seats. All are welcome to receive the bread and the wine. Gluten free wafers are available for those who want them. Please stand as you are able.*

*When all have received Communion:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C** **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- A** Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

- P** God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey, ✚ bless and keep you now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

A     Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C     **Thanks be to God.**

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W&P 36, **Emmanuel** - CCLI #12949 1976 C.A. Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Copyright License 11206629 Size B / Streaming License 20854361 Size B.

ELW 801, **Change My Heart** - Song # 1565 words and music by Eddie Espinosa. Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (ASCAP), admin. Music Services. CCLI Copyright License 11206629 Size B / Streaming License 20854361 Size B.

ELW 256, **Comfort, Comfort Now My People** - In the Public Domain Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635-1711. tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Music: Trente quatre pseumes de David, Geneva, 1551 Tune Name: Freu dich sehr

**Guard Him Joseph** - Free to Use - Sally DeFord

***Communion Hymns:***

ELW 477, **I Received the Living God** - One License #87225 "Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-710141. All rights reserved."

ELW 490, **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** - In the Public Domain Text: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–1885, alt. Music: French folk tune, 17th cent Tune: Picardy.

ELW 480, **O Bread of Life From Heaven** - Public Domain Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862 -1946, sts. 1, 3; tr. Philip Schaff, 1819-1893, st. 2 Music: Heinrich Isaac, 1450â€“1517; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750 Tune: O Welt, ich muss dich lassen (isometric)

**BIRTHDAYS...**Craig Dalrymple, Doris Neumeyer, John Spadoni, Stella Spadoni, Everly Stutz, Steven Thorpe.

**Immediate Prayers:** Ashley, Laura Azzalina, Sharon Bleice, Carl, Gary, Kamilah, Rebecca and Mike Lepkowski, Matt, Nancy, Kaye Pittman, Mary Saville, Mike U., Wes Webber, and Zach.

\*As of December 3, 2024

**Members Homebound/Nursing Home:** Margaret Bennett, Shirley Curto, Lisa Detweiler, Carl Fisher, Theresa Lawhead, Irene Neel, Doris Neumeyer, and Doris Wanamaker.

**Long Term Prayers:** Jessica Arnoldi, Elaine Bobeck, Rodney Burda, Charlie, John Clay, Crystal DiLonardo, Michael DiLonardo, Debbie DiLonardo, Carol Ehler, Niklas Enblom, Maj-Britt Enblom, Pam Garity, Lori Gilbert, David Jackson, Keith, Ingvar Kjellberg, Laura Lee Laustsen, David Laustsen, Paul Laustsen, Barbara Lindner, Ethel Shive, Melissa Steckel, John Velekei, and Doug VonNessen.

**Service Members:** MSgt Courtney Baskwell, Lt. Matthew Baskwell, Airman Levi Birchfield, Staff Sgt. Kyle Callantine, PV Anthony Duginski, Captain Vince Franchino, Lt. Elizabeth Gordon, Major Derek Hartman, Major Kristina Himmelreich, Sgt. Rhiannon Perry, Corporal Mark Pollard, and Seaman Recruit Joseph Suhr.

### **THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S**

**Sunday, December 15**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

9:30pm \*Holy Communion Worship Service

**Monday, December 16**

7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

**Wednesday, December 18**

6:00pm Soup Supper at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

7:00pm Advent Worship at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

**Thursday, December 19**

6:30pm Bell Choir

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, December 20**

7:30pm Crossroads AA

**Sunday, December 22**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:30pm \*Holy Communion Worship Service

\*This service is live broadcast and recorded.

### **MONTH OF DECEMBER**

**Altar Guild:** Linda Trigiani

**Offering Counters:** Nina Kramer and April Shaheen

### **ST. ANDREW'S HAPPENINGS**

The **St. Andrew's Bell Choir** will be performing the Prelude at the **7:00pm service on Christmas Eve**. They will begin playing at approximately 6:50pm.

**Offering for 2024** - Please, please, you must have your offering to the church by December 31<sup>st</sup> or postmarked by December 29<sup>th</sup> to be posted in the year 2024.

**WEEKLY ADVENT SERVICES:** Each week, the service will be held at a different host church. A soup supper will be held at each church at 6:00pm and worship will begin at 7:00pm. The services will be in the Holden Evening Prayer format. The schedule is listed below:

December 18            St. Andrew's Lutheran Church – 3900 Freemansburg Ave.

The December 18 service will feature a join choir and will be live streamed and recorded.

Please note that in the case of **INCLEMENT WEATHER** preventing us from meeting in person, we will hold the services via Zoom. The bulletin can be found on the church's website and the link will be found in the Church Calendar on the website. In the event that occurs, we will put the closing of in-person services on the WFMZ Storm Center Website and our office phone greeting.

# Emmanuel

C C/E F G G<sup>7</sup> C C/B $\flat$

Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,

A A/C $\sharp$  Dm G<sup>7</sup> G/B C

his name is called Em-man - u - el;

C/E F G G<sup>7</sup> C C/B $\flat$

God with us, re-vealed in us;

A A/C $\sharp$  Dm G<sup>7</sup> F/C C

his name is called Em-man - u - el.