

# *BAY VIEW* Welcome home!

## *LUTHERAN CHURCH* ELCA



December 5, 2021  
Second Sunday of Advent  
10:30 AM  
Pastor Jeff Greathouse

## PRELUDE

### OPENING PRAISE SONGS

*Hallelujah* (Your Love is Amazing)

Verse 1

Your love is amazing  
Steady and unchanging  
Your love is a mountain  
Firm beneath my feet  
Your love is a myst'ry  
How You gently lift me  
When I am surrounded  
Your love carries me

Chorus

Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah  
Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah  
Your love makes me sing

Verse 2

Your love is surprising  
I can feel it rising  
All the joy that's growing  
Deep inside of me  
Ev'ry time I see You  
All Your goodness shines through  
I can feel this God song  
Rising up in me

Interlude

Yes You make me sing  
Lord You make me sing sing sing  
How You make me sing

Ending

Lord You make me sing  
How You make me sing

CCLI Song # 3091812

Brenton Brown | Brian Doerksen

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### *Joy to the World* (ELW 267)

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sin and sorrow grow  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Stir up our hearts,

**Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NEW DRIVER'S RECOGNITION**

### **LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: ADVENT 2**

We praise you, O God, for this circle of light  
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.  
As we light the candles on this wreath,  
kindle within us the fire of your Spirit,  
that we may be light shining in the darkness.  
Enlighten us with your grace,  
that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.  
Grant this through Christ our Lord,  
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.  
**Amen.**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (ELW 240) **vs 1 & 2**

- 1 Light one candle to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall bring salvation to Israel,  
God fulfills the promise.

2 Light two candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
gently lead them homeward.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

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## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

~ posted by Rev Gord on his blog, [Worship Offerings](http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/). <http://worshipofferings.blogspot.ca/>

### CONFESSION

God of Grace,  
you blow the breath of life into our lungs,  
you have formed us in your image.

**And yet we acknowledge that sometimes  
we are not who you would have us be.**

You challenge us to embrace the refining fire of your love,  
to meet you on the threshing floor of life, to be washed as with  
fuller's soap.

**But in our heart of hearts  
we would rather keep those things  
that would be removed in such an encounter.**

Through your Grace, life-giving God, accept us as we are,  
**Unrefined, unwashed, the chaff mixed in with the grain.**  
And help us to move into a new way of being

*...time of silence...*

### ASSURANCE

Listen! For this is Good News!

God's Grace is wider than our wildest imaginings.

God's Grace embraces us as we are and where we are  
and draws us out to be the people we were created to be.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## **RESPONSE: *He Is Exalted***

Verse

He is exalted

The King is exalted on high

I will praise Him

He is exalted forever exalted

And I will praise His name

Chorus

He is the Lord

Forever His truth shall reign

Heaven and earth

Rejoice in His holy name

He is exalted

The King is exalted on high

CCLI Song # 17827

Twila Paris

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## **FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4**

A reading from Malachi.

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

<sup>68</sup>Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,  
you have come to your people and set them free.

<sup>69</sup>**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,  
born of the house of your servant David.**

<sup>70</sup>Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us  
from our enemies,

<sup>71</sup>from the hands of all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup>**to show mercy to our forebears,  
and to remember your holy covenant.**

<sup>73</sup>This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup>to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**free to worship you without fear,**

<sup>75</sup>**holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.**

<sup>76</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

<sup>77</sup>**to give God's people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

<sup>78</sup>In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

<sup>79</sup>**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the  
shadow of death,**

**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

A reading from Philippians.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to

determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;

<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**SERMON:** Pastor Jeff Greathouse

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (ELW 257)  
**VS 1, 2, 4**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

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

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
embracing all things far and nigh:  
in strength and beauty come and stay;  
teach us your will and guide our way. Refrain

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse, free  
your own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell your people save,  
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain

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

**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**

### **MUSIC FOR PRAYERS:** *Wait for the Lord* (ELW 262)

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

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### **THE PRAYERS**

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We come together to sing the praises of our Faithful God, joining with Zechariah in his praises! Blessed be the Lord our God, for favoring God's people with grace and mercy, and with peace and joy. We celebrate our God's direct involvement with God's people and give thanks for this great gift. We give thanks too, for the way all God's mighty promises have been revealed to struggling humanity as being fulfilled and completed. Our minds and hearts cannot comprehend the magnitude of these gifts, and so together, all we can do or say is: "Praise to the Lord our God for the gift of God's presence with us, and that we can believe in all God's promises."

God-Giving, Hope-Renewing God, just as that ancient priest celebrated the new hope he had been given through God's revelations, so we too praise and thank your God for the renewal

by which God's hope continues to blesses us. God's gift of hope is always new and precious to us, because it is so much more than our idle day-dreams, or our wistful wishes; that hope is so much more than our ambitions of personal or professional success; and that hope is so much more than our most optimistic plans. Through God's gracious gift of a living hope, we at last have something to cling to that is tangible and real; something that we can believe in, to trust in and rely upon.

We give thanks that Zechariah knew about and believed the ancient messages of the prophets, and that he recognized God's path to life was through the way of peace and justice; mercy and forgiveness. We give thanks that he was able to interpret God's message as a bright shining light after centuries of darkness. Light-Giving God, we give you thanks that the darkness of fear, superstition and isolation has been overcome through the holiness and righteousness of our God, and that nothing in this life can ever defeat it; as we follow God's light-revealing path to God's fullness of life. **Amen.**

Remembering in our prayers: **Paul** (Jacobson), **Donovan** (Antholt), **Vicki** (Wittenberg), **Mimi** (Zinngrabe), **Janet** (Mickelson), **Deanne & Chris** (Schafer), **Kevin & Cathy** (Clark), **Steven** (Leek), **Dan** (Coyhis), **Sasha** (Hill), **Fred & Darlene** (Kirch), **Sandy** (Scott-Cota), **Rusty** (Feld), **Kayla** (Fleury), **Rich** (Mickelson), **Carl** (Scholz), **Tysha** (Osborne), **Dale** (Lyndahl), **Beth** (Jacobson), **Michael** (Cassity), **Sue** (Strong), **Larry** (Uecker), **Carol** (Bockhop), **Andrew** (Snyder), **Lois** (Krueger), **Elena** (Rouer), **Chuck** (Dull), **Dan** (Knutson), **Don** (Greathouse).

We also pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week: **Sue** (Strong), **Luke** (Brown), **Megan** (Delfosse), **Renee** (McAllister), **Alicia** (Schopf), **Scott** (Pagels) **Dianne & Charles** (LaViolette).

## **OFFERING**

## **NOISY OFFERING**

A second offering of loose change is taken for our Community Emergency Fund.

## **MUSIC DURING OFFERING**

### *All Is Well*

#### Verse 1

All is well all is well  
Angels and men rejoice  
For tonight darkness fell  
Into the dawn of love's light  
Sing alle sing alleluia

#### Verse 2

All is well all is well  
Let there be peace on earth  
Christ is come go and tell  
That He is in the manger  
Sing alle sing alleluia

#### Verse 3

All is well all is well  
Lift up your voice and sing  
Born is now Emmanuel  
Born is our Lord and Savior  
Sing alleluia sing alleluia  
All is well

CCLI Song # 355008

Michael W. Smith | Wayne Kirkpatrick

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## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of our waiting and watching,  
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives

to the service of all your people.  
Prepare the way before us  
as we meet you in this simple meal,  
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.  
**Amen.**

## **DIALOGUE**

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.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

Come to Christ's banquet  
Feast on God's gift of grace.

## **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**Amen**

**HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION:** Praise Band, *Glory*

## **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

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

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Most High God,  
you have come among us at this table.  
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,  
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,  
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING BLESSING

A new day is dawning!

Despite what we see and hear in the world around us,  
the sunrise is coming.

When it comes, it will break through the darkness of our world—  
darkness caused by violence and death and hunger and despair.

And all those who now sit huddled in the shadows  
will be able to rise and walk with confidence in the light.

So go from here with courage and hope,  
to love and serve the Lord. **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (ELW 279)

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,  
and, gathered all above  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the king,  
and peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently  
the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
but, in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
oh, come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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