

Bay View Welcome home! **BAY VIEW** LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA



December 12, 2021
Third Sunday of Advent
8:00 AM
Pastor Jeff Greathouse

PRELUDE: Jason Palmer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: ADVENT 3

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
strengthen our hearts
as we await the Lord's coming in glory.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may serve our neighbors in need.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.

Light three candles.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG: *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (ELW 240) **vs 1, 2, & 3**

- 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.
- 3 Light three candles to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway
for the King of glory.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

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CALL TO WORSHIP

~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship (from Isaiah 12:3-6)

Give thanks to the LORD!
Praise His name!
Tell the whole world what He has done—
His mighty acts on our behalf.
Sing to the LORD,
for He has done wonderful things for us!
Raise your hearts and voices!
shout and sing your praise!
For great is the Holy One who lives among us!

OPENING PRAYER

~ written by Michael Perry in Bible Praying. Posted on The Jubilate Group website. <http://www.jubilate.co.uk/>

God of peace,
cause us to rejoice in you always,
make us gentle to everyone,
keep us from being anxious about anything—
help us to ask you for what we need, with thanksgiving;
and let your peace
guard our hearts and minds
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

[Re-Worship Blogspot, Year C, Advent III, C&F](#)

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins,
not as frightened servants
but as children of the household of God.
Whenever we live like losers,
without the faith-optimism of those who have received grace upon
grace;
Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Whenever we serve slavishly,
forgetting the glorious liberty
of those who have been named children of God;
Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Whenever we only laugh sarcastically,
mocking human faults
instead of participating in the joy of the redeemed;
Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

God our Savior-Friend, by the grace of Christ Jesus
please bring us to repentance and annul our sins,
and by the infusion of your Spirit
help us to recover the joy for which we are created.
With all the enlightened souls on earth and in heaven,
we long love you all the days of our life,
and adore you throughout eternity.
For your name's sake. Amen!

FORGIVENESS

With joy draw waters from the well of salvation!
Forgiveness is real!
Trust it and share it; forgive as you have been forgiven.
Jesus said: "There is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents."
Truly, God is our salvation
we shall trust and not be afraid!
The peace of our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

GATHERING SONG: *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

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.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

A reading from Zephaniah.

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,

O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The 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.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The 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

¹⁸as on a day of festival.

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

¹⁹I 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.

²⁰At 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has
become my salvation.

³**With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations;
proclaim that this name is exalted.

⁵**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.**

⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

A reading from Philippians.

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷John 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? ⁸Bear 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. ⁹Even 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."

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise."

¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more

than the amount prescribed for you.”¹⁴ 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.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John 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. ¹⁷His 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.”

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Pastor Jeff Greathouse

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (ELW 242)

- 1 Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.
Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.
- 2 To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing;
music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of lovingkindness,
the thunder of his anthems roll
to shatter all hatred and blindness.

- 3 In darkest night his coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.
Then shall the mute break forth in song,
the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong,
and weapons be broken asunder.
- 4 Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless.
Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Remembering in our prayers: **Paul** (Jacobson), **Donovan** (Antholt), **Vicki** (Wittenberg), **Mimi** (Zinngarbe), **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), **the family & friends of Ann** (Grimmer), **the family & friends of Janet** (L. Mickelson) .

We also pray for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week: **Beverly** (Pederson), **Charles** (LaViolette), **John** (Bartoszek), **James** (Buschmann), **Scott** (Davis), **Alisha** (Franklin), **Ann Marie** (Heinz), **Carl** (Scholz), **Lucy** (Rogers), **Rachel** (Wilz), **Jim** (Gray), **Dwight** (Zeller), **Dianne & Merle** (Eskildsen), **Linda & Chris** (Collar).

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

MUSIC DURING OFFERING: Jason Palmer

OFFERING PRAYER

~ written by David S. Bell, and posted on Design Group International. http://davidsbell.org/Offertory_Prayers.html

Lord of our life, the path to you is straight,
yet we waiver in our behavior like the Pharisees and
Sadducees.

Our hopes and dreams often are self-serving and materialistic.
We rush through this season buying gifts
that we hope will convey just the right message.
However, you invite us to ask ourselves if we are equally as busy
preparing messages that proclaim the Good News to a hurting
world.

Through giving, remind us again, O God, of the baptismal
covenant.

This Advent, may we proclaim a message that is exemplified
by our generosity, our kindness, and our prayers.
In Jesus' name, we pray. **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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION: *Savior of the Nations,
Come* (ELW 263)

1 Savior of the nations, come;
virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth:
God has chosen such a birth.

- 2 Not by human flesh and blood,
but the mystic Breath of God,
was the Word of God made flesh,
fruit of woman, blossom fresh.
- 3 Wondrous birth—oh, wondrous child—
from his throne, a virgin mild!
Very God, and Mary's son,
eager now his race to run!
- 4 From God's heart the Savior speeds,
back to God his pathway leads;
out to vanquish death's command,
back to reign at God's right hand.
- 5 Now your manger, shining bright,
hallows night with newborn light.
Night cannot this light subdue;
let our faith shine ever new.
- 6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,
virgin's son, incarnate Word!
To the holy Trinity
praise we sing eternally!

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version
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administrator.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

~ written by Michael Perry in Bible Praying. Posted on The Jubilate Group website. <http://www.jubilate.co.uk/>

Rejoice in the Lord always,
show gentleness to all,
do not be anxious,
make your needs known to God
by prayer, with thanksgiving;
and the peace of God
guard your heart and mind
in Christ Jesus. **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.

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