

Order of Worship Bulletin

**Saturday 12/10/2022 5:30pm
Sunday 12/11/2022 8:30am**



Third Sunday in Advent

Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church and School

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Worship Services
Saturday at 5:30pm
Sunday at 8:30am & 10:30am

Prelude**Musicians****Welcome, Announcements, Greeting****Call to Worship (8:30am)****Emmanuel****Choir****Gathering Hymn****Prepare the Royal Highway****Green Hymnal # 26****Confession and Forgiveness** (*please be seated or kneel as you are able*)

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son+, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen

P. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(*Silence for reflection and self-examination*)

P. Most merciful God,

C. we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C. Amen**

The Apostolic Greeting (*please rise*)

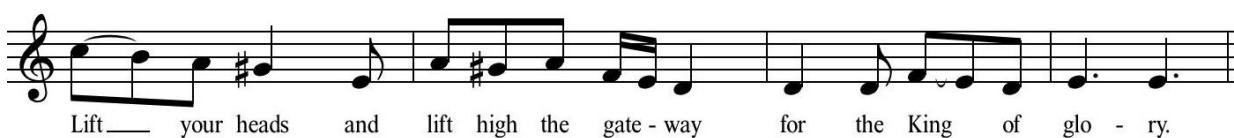
P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, You once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of Your Son and to prepare His way. Grant us, Your people, the wisdom to see Your purpose today and the openness to hear Your will, that we may witness to Christ's coming and so prepare His way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who live and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si____ ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



Lift____ your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE. Yiddish folk tune

Text c 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus 2 it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. 4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you." 5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; 6 then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; 7 the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. 8 And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not pass over it, and fools shall not err therein. 9 No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Psalm 146 (read responsively, congregation reads the bold verses)

P. Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C. I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

P. Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

C. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

P. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

C. who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

P. who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

C. the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

P. The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C. The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

Second Lesson: James 5:7-11

Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain. 8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 Do not grumble, brethren, against one another, that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the doors. 10 As an example of suffering and patience, brethren, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. 11 Behold, we call those happy who were steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

The Gospel Verse (please rise)

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia!

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
C. Glory to you, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:2-15

Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. 6 And blessed is he who takes no offense at me."

7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 Why then did you go out? To see a man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, those who wear soft raiment are in kings' houses. 9 Why then did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way before thee.' 11 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and men of violence take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John; 14 and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

P. The Gospel of the Lord.
C. Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Green Hymnal # 34

The Apostles' 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

The Prayers of the People

A. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
Please be seated or kneel as you are able.

(The congregation's response to the petition, "Lord in your mercy," is "***Hear our prayer.***")

Sharing of the Peace (wave to one another!)

The offering will be received as you leave worship today. The offering plates are located in front of the baptismal font at the entrance to the sanctuary where you can place your donations and yellow connect/sign-in insert. Thank you for your stewardship and support of the mission!

Preparation of the Elements for Holy Communion

The Offertory Prayer

- A. Let us pray, Merciful Father,
- C. **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

- P. The Lord be with you.
- C. **And also with you.**
- P. Lift up your hearts.
- C. **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P. Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**
- P. It is indeed right and salutary... we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Consecration of the Elements for Communion

- 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, for ever and ever. Amen

Communion Distribution

At the direction of the ushers, we invite all who recognize the body and blood of Christ and seek forgiveness in His name, to receive communion today. You are invited to kneel or stand at the altar or you may receive in your pew by letting an usher know.

As is our custom, both the common cup for intinction and individual glasses are made available. If you wish to intinct from the chalice, please hold on to the host after you receive it and dip it carefully in the chalice. The center glasses in each tray contain grape juice. If you would like a gluten-free host, please indicate this to the Pastor.

Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come to the altar to receive a blessing indicating that desire by crossing their arms over their chests.

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God



1. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us,
2. Lamb of God, you are the way of just-ice and peace:
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer-cy and love;

1, 2. 3.

mer - cy on us, mer-cy on us. us. Lamb of God, you



take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Be Now My Vision

Red Hymnal # 562

Dismissal from Communion (please rise)

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
C. Amen.

Post-Communion Canticle

REFRAIN

Praise to you, O God of mer-cy: Thanks be to you for - ev - er.

Rais-ing high the weak and low-ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er.

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -
mem - b'ring your cov - e-nant of life with us. (Refrain)

Prayer after Communion

A. Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving and to conform our lives to His; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

P. Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Benediction

P. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever.

C. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Blessed Assurance

Red Hymnal # 572

The Dismissal to Serve

A. "Go in peace, Serve the Lord!"
C. "Thanks be to God!"

Postlude

Musicians

Next Sunday's readings: *Isaiah 7:10-17; Psalm 24; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25*
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number is: **26566**