

*Be glad in the Lord, and
Rejoice!*



PSALM 32:11

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
“PATIENT WAITING”

REV. DAN KOHN

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
“PATIENT WAITING”

REV. DAN KOHN

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022

FOCUS There is so much joy in Advent—it simply must be shared! The weeks before Christmas bring a time of joyful preparation to our homes, our communities, and our churches. As people who are waiting to welcome the Lord Jesus once again, we make a priority of bringing His way straight into our lives. The many competing voices and sounds of the season may seek to distract us, but we know what our priorities are to be. We are listening for a specific sound—the sound of the good news of the coming Savior! Today in worship we sing and hear familiar carols and new pieces celebrating Christ's birth and His coming again in glory. To provide new insight to familiar texts, we will read some of the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran pastor in Germany during World War II, and some from the pen of Susan Cherwien, a contemporary Christian poet. May God bless you through our worship this morning as we continue to wait and prepare for Christ to come again! “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!”

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC Theme & Variations on “Hark, the Glad Sound” *Bouman*
“Christmas Night” *arr. Helman*
“A Handel Christmas Medley” *arr. Lamb*

RINGING of the BELLS and WELCOME

CALL to WORSHIP *Three Comings to the Season* *Cherwien*

CHORAL RESPONSE “Come, Now, Savior of the Nations” *arr. Burkhardt*

OPENING HYMN “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *LSB 338*



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de-liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev-er, Now Thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con-so - la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e - ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
By Thyne all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

EXHORTATION, CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

- L** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- L** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- L** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- L** God is gracious and forgiving. He shows His kingly power in ways that are merciful. To each of us, our Lord says, "Fear not!" and promises pardon, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.
- C** **Amen.**

LIGHTING the ADVENT CANDLES

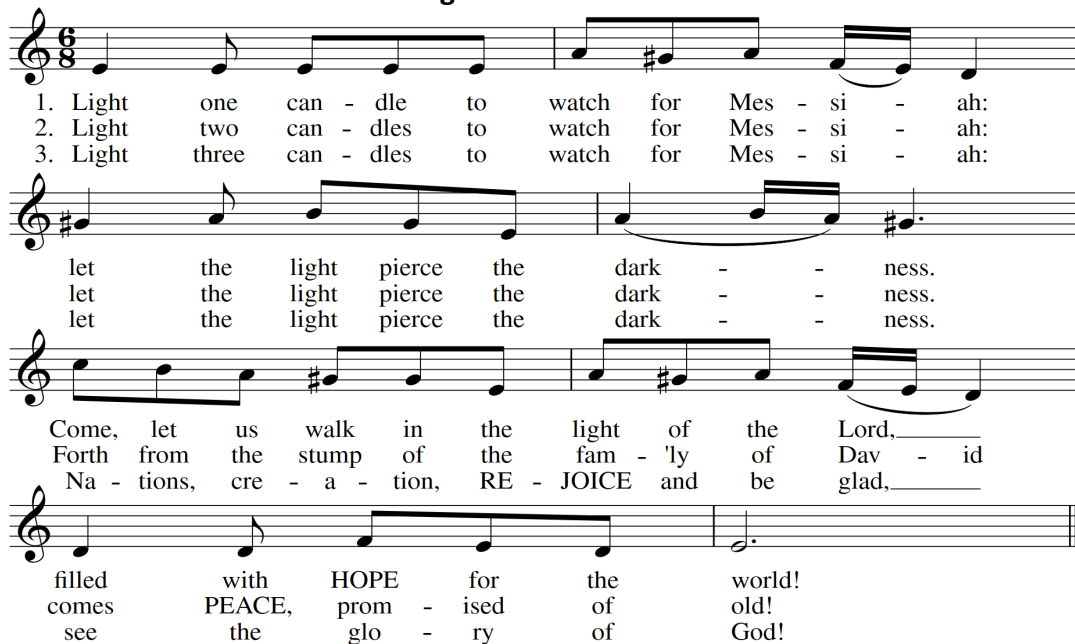
(Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11)

- L** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would break forth in the wilderness.
- C** **Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Amen.**

HYMN

"Light One Candle"

Wold



1. Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah;
 2. Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah;
 3. Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah;
 let the light pierce the dark - - ness.
 let the light pierce the dark - - ness.
 let the light pierce the dark - - ness.
 Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord,
 Forth from the stump of the fam - 'ly of Dav - id
 Na - tions, cre - a - tion, RE - JOICE and be glad,
 filled comes with HOPE for the world!
 see PEACE, prom - ised of old!
 the glo - ry of God!

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SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Long Is Our Winter"

Anonymous

Service of the Word

OLD TESTAMENT

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 have an anxious 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 deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters 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; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.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 gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

“Be Strong, Fear Not”

Keesecker

(Please join in singing the refrain after each verse sung by the choir.)

*Choir: 1. Strengthen the hands that are feeble, Make firm the knees that are weak,
Say to those hearts that are frightened: Be strong, fear not. **REFRAIN***

Refrain (ALL):



Be strong, fear not. Here is your God. Be
strong, fear not. Here is your God. Be strong, fear not.
Here is your God. He comes to save us.

2. *The eyes of the blind be opened, The ears of the deaf be cleared.
The broken will dance forever, the silent will sing. **REFRAIN***
3. *The desert shall bloom with flowers, The rivers flow freely again,
The earth be abundant and fruitful, All glory shout out! **REFRAIN***
4. *The poor will be judged with justice, The lowly be lifted high,
The hungry will laugh in gladness, In freedom cry out! **REFRAIN***

READING

One Single Name

Bonhoeffer

HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound”

LSB 349

1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es

throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Text and tune: Public domain

READING

The Turning Around of All Things

Bonhoeffer

RESPONSE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

arr. Thompson

EPISTLE

James 5:7-11

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Noel"

Schalk

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-15

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious. ¹¹ In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a second time to recover the remnant that remains of his people, from Assyria, from Egypt, from Pathros, from Cush, from Elam, from Shinar, from Hamath, and from the coastlands of the sea. ¹² He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. ¹³ The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart, and those who harass Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not be jealous of Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim. ¹⁴ But they shall swoop down on the shoulder of the Philistines in the west, and together they shall plunder the people of the east. They shall put out their hand against Edom and Moab, and the Ammonites shall obey them. ¹⁵ And the Lord will utterly destroy the tongue of the Sea of Egypt, and will wave his hand over the River with his scorching breath, and strike it into seven channels, and he will lead people across in sandals.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN of the DAY “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

LSB 345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

“Patient Waiting”

Rev. Dan Kohn

APOSTLES’ CREED

☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GATHERING of TITHES and OFFERINGS

MISSION STATEMENT: *To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.*

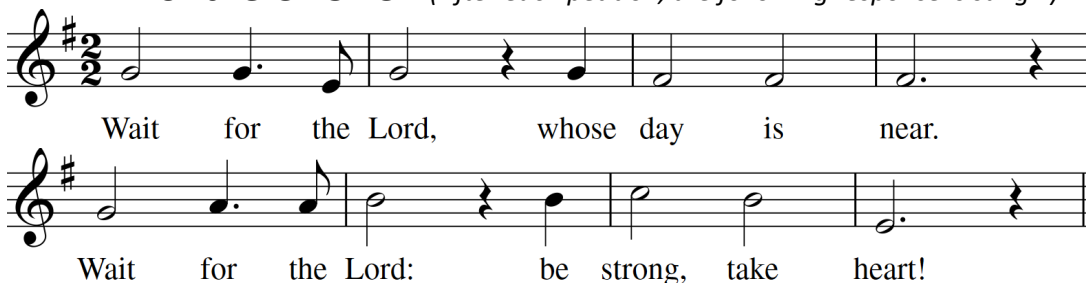
VISION STATEMENT: *To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

MUSICAL OFFERING

"O Holy Night"

Adam

PRAYER of the CHURCH *(After each petition, the following response is sung...)*



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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- L** With longing and hopeful expectation, let us pray to the Lord. God of the Church, we pray for all pastors, teachers, missionaries, and all who lead and teach Your people. Bless them and by Your Holy Spirit, move among us all so that we may prepare the way of the Lord and be powerful witnesses to Your love. God of all mercies, help us as we...
- C** *(sung)* **"Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!"**
- L** God of joy, today we rejoice with those who rejoice that we may know joy in the fellowship of one another. Bless them as they celebrate and help us to be always mindful of Your goodness. God of all mercies, help us as we...
- C** *(sung)* **"Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!"**
- L** Compassionate Lord, we mourn with those who mourn, that they may be comforted with the peace that comes alone from You. God of all mercies, help us as we...
- C** *(sung)* **"Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!"**

- L** God of healing, today we remember all those with special needs. In love, look upon them and according to Your good and gracious will, meet their needs and send us to minister to them; God of all mercies, help us as we...
- C** (sung) **"Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!"**
- L** Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for Your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord who has taught us to pray,

The LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- L** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

DISMISSAL

- L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with joy!
- C** Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN

"Joy to the World"

LSB 387

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions

King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -

room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE

“Joy to the World”

Cherwein & Burkhardt

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Dan Kohn, Pastor Emeritus*

ORGANIST: *Rod Riese*

MUSICIANS: *Sanctuary Choir, JuBellation Handbells, Flute—Sharon Rock*

READERS: *Jodi Hoehne, Will Hoehne*

ELDERS: *7:30am—Bob Zimmerman; 9am—Dan Schwantes*

ACOLYTES: *7:30am— ; 9am—Logan Frey, Isaac Neumueller*

TECH: *7:30am— ; 9am—*

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

7:30am & 9am Sunday

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 10:15am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 10:15am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School, our Childcare (infant through 13 years), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.

VISION STATEMENT:

To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.