

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Third Sunday in Advent



December 13, 2020

Ringing of the Bells

Love's Pure Light

Love's Pure Light – Solo – JoAnn Kayser

Responsive Advent Litany – Hope for God's Joy

P: In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

P: We count our blessings, and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

P: We strive to search for the good in neighbors near and far.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

P: We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Candle Lighting and Reading

Love's Pure Light – Congregation sings:

☩ O come, O come, Emmanuel, and end this gloom of night. Bring hope to the world, bring peace to the earth, and fill us with love's pure light.

Love's Pure Light - Solo – JoAnn Kayser

Closing Prayer

P: Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we ask that you open our eyes to the beauty and goodness around us, and fill our hearts with grateful joy. Remind us that Christ is our light and the source of all joy, and that we are here to serve you and to spread that joy to other. **☩ Amen.**

Divine Service—Setting 4

Opening Hymn

333 Once He Came in Blessing



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Stand

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P 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.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit *Ps. 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: Ps. 85:7*

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

C: and grant us your salvation.

P: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,

C: for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

P: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,

C: that glory may dwell in our land.

P: Yes, the LORD will give what is good,

C: and our land will yield its increase.

P: Righteousness will go before him

C: and make his footsteps a way.

**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,

C: and grant us your salvation.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord *sts. 1, 4*



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard,
el; And I am blest for time to come.
His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11*

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

³to grant to those who mourn in Zion— to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what

is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.*

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

C: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

P: Behold, your king is coming to you;

C: righteous and having salvation.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Bell Choir – “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Epistle *1 Thessalonians 5:16–24*

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Holy Gospel *John 1:6–8, 19–28*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,**

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead
 and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



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!

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Sermon: "Can I Get a Witness?"

Sermon Text: John 1:6-8; 19-28

Rev. Samuel Bobby

Prayer of the Church

Offertory Hymn

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel *sts., 5-6*

5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high,
Refrain
 And close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re-joice!
 Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
 And cheer us by Thy drawing night;
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)

Stand

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Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- 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 truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- G** **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He

had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
 3 Ye seed of Is-rael's cho-sen race, Ye ran-somed from the fall,
 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da-vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,
 5 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get The worm-wood and the gall,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your tro-phies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.

- 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
 On this terrestrial ball
 To Him all majesty ascribe
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 To Him all majesty ascribe
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 We at His feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 We'll join the everlasting song
 And crown Him Lord of all.

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In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace. **C** **Amen.**

Stand

Nunc Dimittis



C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Acknowledgments

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THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)
Aberdeen, South Dakota
(605) 225-1847
December 13, 2020

The purpose of St. Paul's Congregation is to assist its members to share and to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ by faithful proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments in accordance with the confessional standards of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Rev. Samuel Bobby, Senior Pastor [Cell: 415-5578]

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Please pray for Brandi Wagemann, Roger Blum, Pastor Dell, Michael Severson, Joyce Kenitzer, Joyce Dahme, Delores Sandmeier, Ada McCorkle, Brenda Blair, Miles Eisenbeisz, Leona McCalip, Steven Swanhorst, Barbara Dahme, Howard Dahme, Dan Lingor, Jason Herrick, Pastor Anderson, Gladys Felix, Ralph Stevens, Chad Ashford, John Cassens, Vivian Hoff, Tim Schwabe, and Muriel Schamber.

Little Ones' Book Club – Our youngest children (Baptism through age 3) have a Bible-based book waiting for them in the South Narthex. If you haven't picked yours up yet, please take it home,

read, and enjoy! It's yours to keep! We plan to have several "Little Ones' Book Club" Sundays throughout the year.

A Higher Things Youth Retreat will be held on January 1-2, 2021 at Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre. The topic of this retreat is "*This is My Body.*" Registration forms and information about this retreat is located on the youth bulletin board.

Sunday School Christmas Program----We are excited to share that there will be a Children's Christmas program to be held between church services on Sunday, December 20 at 9:30 am. Practices will be held during regular Sunday school time and will include the children in grades pre-K through 3rd Grade. Masks are highly encouraged for the congregation during the program. Coffee and donuts will be served following the program.

MAIN STREET LIVING – Dec. 20, 2020 10:00 AM – Lutheran Hour Ministries Animated Series – Christmas Is—10:30 AM - Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod brings a special Christmas message. For more information go to the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com

THE LUTHERAN HOUR – Dec. 20 – "Experience God" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The Lutheran Hour can be heard on KAWZ 88.1 at 9:00 am or Bismarck radio station KFYZ at 7:30 am on Sundays.

Poinsettia Plants: If you would like to donate a Poinsettia plant, in memory of a loved one, please have the plant at the church beginning December 18th. Please call the church office to have your name included in the bulletin.

2021 Offering envelopes are located in the South Narthex.

Offering: Dec. 6, 2020 - \$12,968.05 Sunday School - \$20.00
Coffee - \$45.43 Shepherd Fund - \$115.90

Attendance: December 6, 2020

8:00am – 75 Communed – 63 10:45 am – 94 Communed - 71
Monday Night – 24 Communed – 22

Wed. 12:15pm – 44 Communed – 41 Advent 6:15 pm – 70

**Organists: Sunday – Cyrece Kono Monday – Tierra Cassens
Wednesday – 12:15pm**

- Cindy Jung **6:15pm** – Judah Bobby

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S: (Dec. 13 – Dec. 20)

Sun 8:00 am Worship Service
9:30 am Bible Study, Coffee/Donuts
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Worship Service
1:00 pm Elder Bible Study

Mon 6:15 pm Worship Service

Wed 6:00 am Men's Bible Study
12:15 pm **Advent Worship Service – (Mask Required)**
6:15 pm **Advent Worship Service**
6:45 pm Bell Practice
7:00 pm Confirmation

Sun 8:00 am Worship Service
9:30 am Bible Study, Coffee/Donuts
9:30 am Sunday School Christmas Program (Mask)
10:45 am Worship Service

December Worship Schedule

Advent: Wednesday, December 16: 12:15pm – Mask
Wednesday, December 16: 6:15pm

Children's Program: December 20 at 9:30 am – Mask

Christmas Eve: December 24 – 3:00 pm Mask
December 24 – 4:30 pm
December 24 – 6:30 pm

Christmas Day: Worship with Holy Communion – 9:30 am
Worship with Holy Communion – 10:45am - Mask