

Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.”

Luke 3:12-13

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

8:30 & 11:00 AM

Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel

Christ’s presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news – and cause for exultation – for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

All worship participants are required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status. *(Note: All those leading worship in the chancel or choir loft are vaccinated and will only remove masks while speaking or singing.)*

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Four

✠ GATHERING ✠

OPENING VOLUNTARY Chorale Improvisation on O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

ACCLAMATION

Timothy Olsen

Alleluia. I am sending my messenger before you,
who will prepare your way before you. *Alleluia.*

(Matthew 11:10)

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

In your compassion forgive us our sins,

known and unknown,

things we have done

and things we have failed to do.

Turn us again to you,

and uphold us by your Spirit,

so that we may live and serve you

in newness of life

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy,

loved us even when we were dead in sin,

and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power

through the Holy Spirit,

that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 241 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you a - right?
 2 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; you came to set me free.
 3 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me.
 4 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est gloom,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; you came to hon - or me.
 Your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
 who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your doom.

Oh, kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, your lamp with - in my breast
 A glo - rious crown you give me, a trea - sure safe on high
 Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, now come,

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 that will not fail or leave me as earth - ly rich - es fly.
 in love, all love ex - cel - ling, our lost and fall - en race.
 send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite
 Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

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

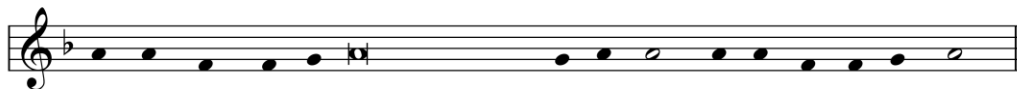
KYRIE



In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, com - fort and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI, EMMANUEL

O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

Refrain

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

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: **Amen.**

We sit.

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The 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. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The 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 as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I 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. At 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. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**



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.

³With 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.

⁵Sing 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

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

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung by the Assembly.



Sung by the choir.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

All repeat alleluia.

HYMN OF THE DAY 267 Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions 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

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

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.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

Each portion of the prayers concludes:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

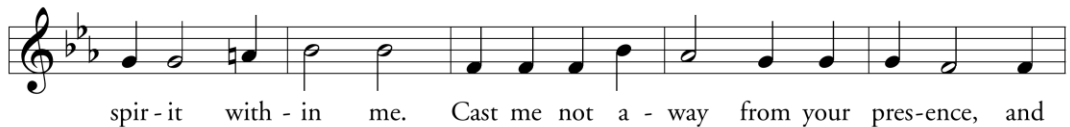
The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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

✠ MEAL ✠

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN



Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:

our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered,

in feeding the world with your love,

through the one who gave himself for us,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with various rests and phrasing slurs.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de-liv-er us from e - vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the
glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The presiding minister lifts the bread and cup and says

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ. When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

The assembly responds

Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us peace. A - men.

We sit.

COMMUNION

Today we will be communing using the individual communion kits that you received when checking in for worship. Gluten-free wafers are available when you check in. Please wait to take communion until the pastor comes to the end of the row and shares the Eucharistic Proclamation with you. Visitors and children are welcome to receive communion. Those who have never communed and would like to are encouraged to talk to a pastor. All who do not receive communion will receive a blessing.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

Adult Handbell Choir

We stand.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks
that you have set before us this feast,
the body and blood of your Son.

By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need
and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

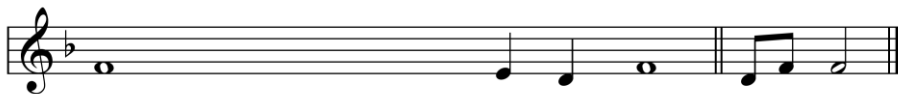
Amen.

We sit.

✠ **SENDING** ✠

BLESSING OF THE AUGSBURG OVERFLOW SHELTER SEASON

We stand.



The Lord bless you ... and ✠ give you peace. **A - men.**

SENDING HYMN 248 People, Look East

BESANÇON

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
 4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
 plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
 bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
 life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
 with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
 east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord!

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Robert J. Powell

Soli Deo Gloria!

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Announcements

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God, and in memory of their son, Coty Nelson, and all of the children who have left us too soon, by David and Ruth Marie Kinley.

This week we keep in prayer Nancy Crandall, 9807 Veirs Dr. Apt. 217, Rockville, MD 20850-3889. Please send **Nancy** a note.

Today, the second Sunday of December, is considered National Children's Memorial Day. It is observed in memory of children who have died and it is customary for their parents, families, and Compassionate Friends around the world to light a candle for 1 hour, starting at 7:00 p.m., in memory of these children. A candle will be lit at Augsburg at 7:00 p.m. to remember all the Children of God at Augsburg who now rest in the Kingdom of God.

Advent Compline (Night Service) continues tonight and goes through the remaining Sundays of the Sundays of Advent: December 5, 12 and 19. Services begin at 8:00 p.m. and are preceded by a brief recital beginning at 7:30 p.m. All Augsburg disciples, friends, family, and neighbors are welcome to this candlelit contemplative service led by the Compline Choir. Tonight's recital will feature the Cecilia String Quartet from UNCSA; next week will feature Harry Conn, classical guitarist from UNCSA.

Pastor Paul will be offering a four-week Bible study during the season of Advent focused on "A Season of Hope." Each week he will be using resources provided by our friends at Lutheran World Relief to share how hope is found in the Gospel of Luke and in the work of LWR. The study will take place on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. through December 14. This Bible study will meet via Zoom. All are welcome to attend! You can click [HERE](#) for the Zoom link!

2022 Offering Envelopes are ready and available for pickup in the Narthex outside the Gathering Room. The envelope packets are organized alphabetically by last name. *(Many of you let us know that you no longer need envelopes for offering. We ordered fewer envelopes and reassigned envelope numbers, so your number may have changed.)* If you have any questions, call Joyce Holton in the office at 336-722-8144. Envelopes not picked up by January 15 will be mailed to homes.

Three ways to Give in Advent! First, you can **donate a poinsettia** in honor or memory of your loved one(s) to beautify our Christmas Eve services. Secondly, you can **sponsor a Christmas Blessing** in honor or memory of your loved one(s) that Augsburg will share with families in need at Christ's Beloved Community. We will purchase gift cards to be distributed with food pantry items over the holidays. Both giving options will be recognized in our Christmas Eve bulletin at all services. In order to sponsor a poinsettia or Christmas Blessing, please fill out a paper form. Poinsettias or Christmas Blessings are \$16 each and can be paid however you donate to the church; forms and payments are due by December 12. If you have any questions or need help, please email daniele@alcws.org.

Lastly, you can **give gifts for the Angel Tree** which will be supporting the children and families of Anthony's Plot in the Sunnyside neighborhood. Angel Tree tags will be available on December 13 with gifts to be wrapped and returned to Augsburg by January 3. If you have any questions or need help, please email katie@alcws.org. Thank you!

Augsburg's Overflow Shelter is opening on December 15 and there is so much you can do to help! Pray for our guests and volunteers, sign-up for volunteer spots and donate supplies to help us provide good hospitality and care for our shelter guests. **Donations needed include:** men's boxers, men's crew socks, hotel/travel size toiletries, Lysol/Clorox wipes, coffee, sugar, paper coffee cups, or laundry detergent. All donations can be left at the welcome tables at worship or in the church office. To sign-up go to <https://signup.com/go/AugsburgShelter>. Email katie@alcws.org if you have questions or would like to help.

We keep you in prayer. Our pastors continue to be available for your pastoral care needs. If you would like to reach a pastor, please send them an email. Pastor Paul is seniorpastor@alcws.org and Pastor Lori is pastoralassociate@alcws.org.

Readings for next week: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Worship attendance for services last week: 198 in person and **103** views on **YouTube**.

Providing Service Today

Bulletin Cover Artist

Lynn Baynes

Ushers

(8:30) Rick Brant, Mark Galchutt

(11:00) Carrol Epting, Don Eppert

Mark Galchutt

Head Usher

Don Eppert

Presiding

Rev. Paul Wollner

Preaching

Rev. Lori Carter

Greeter

(8:30) TBD

(11:00) Don Johnson

Communion Assistants

(8:30) Karl Florian

(11:00) Kathy Nelson

Lay Readers

(8:30) Maria Fortin

(11:00) Jeff Fowler

Altar Guild for December

Carmen Menzel & Joanna Frock

Crucifer

Emma Hanes

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SEASON OF ADVENT

December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent with Holy Communion

8:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

Service of Advent Lessons and Carols

11:00 a.m.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 24

Outdoor Christmas Eve Children's Worship with Holy Communion

1:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Prelude music begins at 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

December 25

Christmas Day

No services

December 26

First Sunday of Christmas with Holy Communion

10:30 a.m.

One service only – in sanctuary

January 2

Second Sunday of Christmas with Holy Communion

8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

January 6

Epiphany of Our Lord Vespers

7:00 p.m.



AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

845 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

E-mail addresses available at www.alcws.org

(336) 722-8144

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod

Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Katie Bryant, Rostered Minister for Youth & Emerging Ministries

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Daniele Olsen, Interim Administrative Assistant

Bruce Tippet, Youth Music and Handbell Director

Leigh Anna Voigt, Director of Faith Formation

Reggie Jackson, Lead Sexton

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Carl Davis and John Stepney, Sextons

Hannah Norem, Communications Assistant

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation