



Third Sunday in Advent
St. John's Lutheran Church
 Red Bud, Illinois
December 15-16, 2018 5 p.m. and 8 a.m.



THE PRELUDE: "Prelude in G Minor"

arranged by J.S. Bach

THE RINGING OF THE BELL calls us to holy worship.

OPENING HYMN: 353 "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring"

Divine Service Four, page 203ff.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: page 203 (*please stand if you are able*)

We Share God's Peace With and Greet One Another

INTROIT: Philippians 4:4; Psalm 146



<p>Rejoice in the Lord always; Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who executes justice for the oppressed, The LORD sets the pris- / on-ers free; The LORD lifts up those who are / bowed down; Glory be to the Father and to the Son as it was in the be- ginning, Rejoice in the Lord always;</p>	<p>again I will say, Rejoice. whose hope is in the LORD his God, who keeps faith for- ever; who gives food to the hungry. the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. the LORD loves the righteous. and to the Holy Spirit; is now, and will be forever. Amen. again I will say, Rejoice.</p>
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KYRIE: (page 204) (*sung*) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.
 (We omit the **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** during the Advent season.)

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**
 P: Let us pray. **C: 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. Amen.**
 (*please be seated*)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a Mighty One who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. 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 in, at the time when I gather you together; 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.

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

THE GRADUAL:

<p>Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Behold, your king is coming to you; Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.</p>	<p>Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. righteous and having salvation. From the house of the Lord we bless You.</p>
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THE EPISTLE READING:

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious 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.

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

(*please stand if able*) **ALLELUIA and VERSE:** (page 205) (*sung*)

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

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL:**Luke 7:18-28**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 7th chapter. **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And when the men had come to Him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, ‘Are You the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’”

In that hour He healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind He bestowed sight. And He answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by Me.”

When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send My messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed: page 206

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY: 345 “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”

(please stand for the last stanza if able, sung “A-men.”)

SERMON:

Pastor: Most gracious Father: may the words of my mouth,

Congregation: and the meditation of our hearts,

All: be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(please stand if you are able)*

(Each petition ends “Lord, in Your mercy” and we respond, “hear our prayer.”)

HEALING AND COMFORT: Leonard Vogt, Arlin Winkelman, Kenneth Koester, Jean Menke, June Lawrence, C. John Prigge, Joan Wiegand, Jim Guebert, Jane Donjon, Alice Guebert, Wayne Liefer, Stuart Langrehr, Tim Deien, Kathy Liefer, Susie Harms, Rebekah Liefer, Jonathan Koen, Addelyn Rahn; *Family and Friends of St. John’s Members:* Lori Voges, Brenda Manning, Derrick DeWilde, Robin Steinmann, Bobby Wood, Kate Snyder, Bob Stirnaman, Ruby Muench, Danielle Anderson, Ruth Hecht, Henry Hunter, Sheri Boothe, Alan Deterding, John Hudak, Jennifer King, Margarete Schrader. *Help us keep this list current!*

MILITARY: (Please call with the names to include in prayer.) Army- Nathan Koen, Jonathan Koen, Tim Healy, Christopher Dupertius, Jacob Adams, Donald Roberts, Casey Vallett, Matthew Kraus, Paul Craft, Jr., Dustin Krack, Austin Scheibe, Trevor Buckner, Jessica DeMarco; Navy- Brad Koester, Carl Muehler; Air Force- Brian Hubbard, Jason Nehrt, Curt Hatten, Terry Koester, David Livingston, Matt Sabo, Ryan Kozarich, Tanner Hackstadt, Ched Wagner; Marines- Alex Renner, Cody Koch, Tailor Neuhaus, Josh Butterworth, Brent Knop, Thomas Lewis

+the birth of a daughter, Whitley Dawn, to Tyler and Megan (Miller) Henry on December 9

(please be seated)

OFFERING: “O Sing of Christ”

arranged by Charles Callahan

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT: page 208ff.

PREFACE and SANCTUS: page 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER: page 209

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD: page 209

THE PAX DOMINI:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: Amen.**

THE AGNUS DEI: page 210

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: *(please be seated)*

637 “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

737 “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing”

813 “Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”

(please stand for the last stanza if able, sung “A-men.”)

NUNC DIMITTIS: “Song of Simeon” page 211

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT: page 212

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION: page 212

CLOSING HYMN: 803 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” *(sung “A-men”)*

THE POSTLUDE: “Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing” *arranged by Donald Rotermund*

Acknowledgments Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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