

Third Sunday in Advent
“Why He Came: Healing”

December 11, 2022

As We Gather

We need healing. Our world is in need of healing. So much sickness: physical, mental, emotional. There is so much that is unhealthy and life draining. Jesus came to bring healing. Because of His coming, we live with the hope of a new creation in which there will be perfect healing. As citizens now of this new creation, we strive to be agents of biblical healing in our lives.

Welcome

+ Gathering +

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (LSB 380)

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,

Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! **[Refrain]**

3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. **[Refrain]**

Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: Today we light the third candle of the Advent wreath. The third candle is the candle of Joy.

(The HOPE and PEACE and JOY candles are lit.)

Leader: John 15:11 - *"I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete."*

Leader: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, fill us with your joy, the joy found only in You, in what You have done, and in Your gifts to us, that in all the changes and challenges of life, we may rejoice in You. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen / We Three Kings"

God rest ye merry gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our savior
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray
Oh tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly father
This blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same
How that in Bethlehem was born
The son of God by name
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

O, Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

O, Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Glorious now, behold Him arise.
King and God and sacrifice
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!
Worship him God most high

O, Star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

God rest ye merry gentleman.

Prayer

Children's Church

+ Service of the Word +

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like the crocus, ² it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.

³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,
"Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you."

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

⁷ The burning sand will become a pool,
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.
In the haunts where jackals once lay,
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

⁸ And a highway will be there;
it will be called the Way of Holiness;
it will be for those who walk on that Way.
The unclean will not journey on it;
wicked fools will not go about on it.

⁹ No lion will be there,
nor any ravenous beast;
they will not be found there.
But only the redeemed will walk there,
¹⁰ and those the LORD has rescued will return.
They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: James 5:7-11

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

¹⁰Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:2-15

²When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

⁴Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

⁷As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. ¹⁴And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. ¹⁵Whoever has ears, let them hear.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You O Christ!

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.

Sermon

“Why He Came: Healing”

Offering

Musical Offering

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

French Traditional Carol
Arr. Katherine K. Davis

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ, our God, to earth descending,
Our full homage to demand.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords in human vesture,
In the Body and the Blood
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly Food.

At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
“Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the chat.

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

St. John's People and Families

Tom, CeCe, Elise, & Matthew Commander
Courtnee & Robert Gringas
Randy & Mary Kosanke
Steve & Judi Rock
Matt, Kelsey, Kimberly, Jaxson, & Harper Uffmann
Levi, Ashley, Levi, Lachlan, & Lainey Cloud
Zach, Ashleigh, & Everleigh Dias
David, Katie, Henry, & Charlotte Lawrence
Brian, Alexis, & Mark Riccomini
Yusaf, Breanna, Yasemin, & Jeyda Topal

The Lord's Prayer

People: **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

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns" LSB 348

1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

2 Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose

And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.

4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.

5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings.

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

Memory Verse for This Week

The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

⁶ Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of Me."

Matthew 11:5-6

Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Readers	Gerry Schneider, Sarah Kramer
Sound Technician	Jacob Bartelt
Streaming Technician	Joel Wahlers
Projection Technician	Bob Klein
Worship Preparation Team	Betsy Gewirz, Bob & Doris Klein
Ushers	Christy & Steve Wood
Children's Church	Nina Montes, Kristi Carey, Joy Dahl
Worship Band	Thane Knutson, Steve & Judi Rock, Neill Barker

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