

Resurrection Lutheran Church

New Life in the Living Word + For Now + Forever

1735 E Main Street - Mankato, MN | 507-345-4455 | www.resurrectionmankato.org

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | Sunday, December 11, 2022

WELCOME *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you haven't already, please consider signing the friendship pad at the end of your pew.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

R: Advent is a time for God's people to awaken their longings.

C: Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

R: In the darkness, we long to see the light.

C: Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

R: In the silence, we long for a comforting word.

C: Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

R: In hardship, we long for an act of love.

C: Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

R: In Christ, we celebrate and rejoice in the promise of joy.

C: Sorrow may last for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

R: As the first, second and third candles are lit, please stand and sing our opening hymn:
"Hark, the Glad Sound!"

GATHERING HYMN: Hark, the Glad Sound.....RECLAIM No. 92

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SIN

As an assembly of sinners, we come before God each Sunday morning to admit our faults, failures, and guilt. The word of absolution speaks the Gospel into our ears and assures that because of Christ's death at Calvary, every one of our sins is covered.

P: We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather for worship, let us first call to mind our faults and failings. We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his

forgiveness and peace. Trusting, therefore, in God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sins against God and one another:

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Eternal God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. Forgive all our offenses, known and unknown, things done and things we have failed to do. Cleanse us from the power of sin by your Holy and life-giving Word. By your grace, draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in Baptism. In the mercy of Almighty God, Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Hear the good news of the Gospel: in Christ's name, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen!

THE HYMN OF GLORY

These words are a response to the gracious and steadfast mercy of God, who pours out his love on undeserving sinners. Together we lift our voices in a song of praise to the trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – for the gift of salvation and new life.



1. God, Fa - ther we will raise your name; we wor-ship and a - dore, We
2. Sing, "Glo - ry be to you, O Lord; to you, O Christ be praise. The
3. O glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Spi-rit ev - er be! God,



bless and praise and give our thanks; your mer - cy we im - plore.
lamb of love from hea'vn a - bove, re - dee - mer of our race.
bring your life a-midst our strife, and reign tri - umph - ant - ly.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

All: Gracious God, the Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end, may your Spirit kindle in us patience and strength and endurance in the face of suffering, as well as love and mercy toward our neighbors that reflects your own. We pray in Jesus' name, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10 (ESV)

When the Lord comes to save his people, even the earth will be glad. The desert will bloom; the dry land shall sing its praises to the Lord. The blind shall see, the lame shall leap and the mute will sing for joy as salvation comes to God's people, who will be brought back to Zion.

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ²it 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. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say 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." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then 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; ⁷the 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. ⁸And 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. ⁹No 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. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon them; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sighing shall flee away.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 146 (ESV)

There is only one who can save. This one is the same one who made heaven and earth. He sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind. He upholds the orphan and widow.

R: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

C: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

R: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

C: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

R: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God,

C: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

R: who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;

C: the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

R: The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING: James 5:7-11 (ESV)

Blessed are those who remain steadfast in the face of suffering. Be patient and long-suffering, for the Lord is merciful and compassionate.

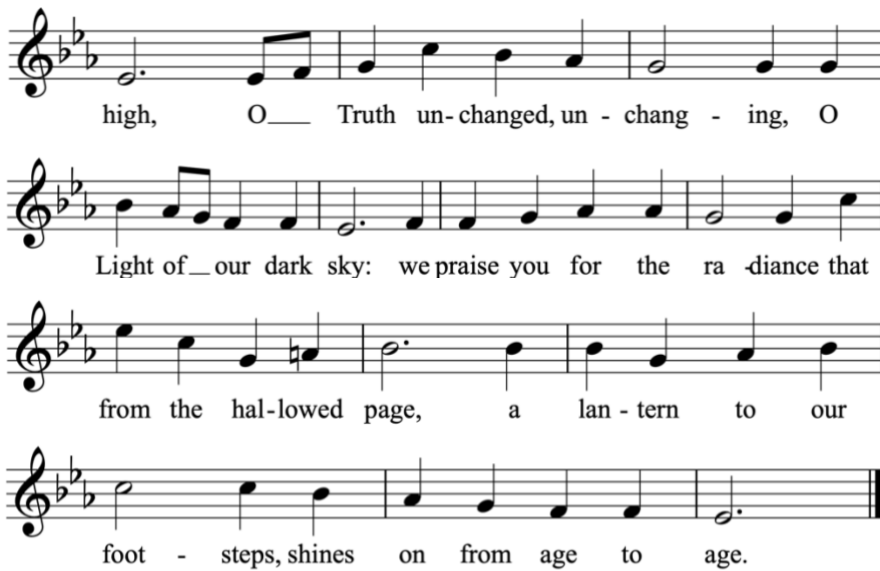
⁷Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Behold, 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.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





high, O Truth un-changed, un - chang - ing, O
 Light of our dark sky: we praise you for the ra - diance that
 from the hal - lowed page, a lan - tern to our
 foot - steps, shines on from age to age.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:2-11 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 11th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

²Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.” ⁷As they went away, 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? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON: Dashed Expectations

HYMN: Just a Closer Walk with Thee.....RECLAIM No. 248

OFFERING *and* OFFERING RESPONSE

As the usher brings forward the offering, please stand to sing:



1 We give thee but thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

C: And also with you.

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in this peace and in community with one another, let us confess our faith:

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends with the words Lord, in your mercy. Respond by saying Hear our prayer.

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

SENDING HYMN: Blessed Be the God of Israel *(see back of the bulletin)*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

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Portions of today's service were written by Rev. Cathy Ammlung

THIS WEEK AT RESURRECTION LUTHERAN

Sunday	December 11	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship
Monday	December 12	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	December 13	6:00pm	Church Council
Wednesday	December 14	5:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
		6:15pm	Soup Supper
		7:00pm	Midweek Advent Worship
Thursday	December 15	8:00am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	December 18	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

Keyboardist: Kristen Litynski

Reader: Jim Lambert

Ushers: Ron and Sue Brooks

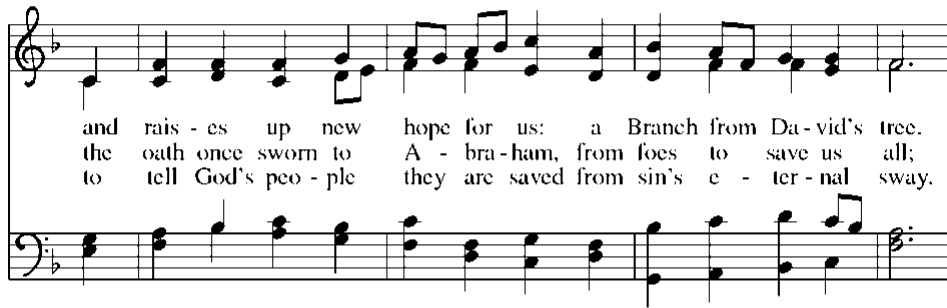
Greeters: Jim Lambert and Carolyn Rewitzer

Tech Team: Mike and Vicki Youngerberg

Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might - y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm,
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days,
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

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