



Third Sunday of Advent~ December 14, 2025

Prelude *Redemptor Omnium* – Hubert Parry

Welcome

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Call to Worship

P: Rejoice in the Lord always—again I say, rejoice!

C: For God has done great things for us!

P: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.

C: The desert shall rejoice and blossom.

P: Our God comes with healing and hope.

C: Let us lift our hearts in joy and expectation.

P: Come, let us worship the God of joy!

Gathering Hymn *Prepare the Royal Highway* - ELW 264 (vs. 1 ,3, & 4)

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Joy is not always easy. We carry burdens, grief, and regret. Let us come honestly before God, whose mercy meets us with grace. **C: Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of Joy,

C: We confess that we often live joyless lives. We chase happiness but forget your deeper gladness. We dwell in anxiety and ignore your invitation to rejoice. Forgive us for stifling your Spirit. Restore in us the joy of our salvation, and teach us again to find delight in you.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

P: Hear the good news from Prophet Zephaniah:

“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.”

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

C: Thanks be to God!

**Hymn of Praise *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* - ELW 265 (vs. 1 – 3)
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v. 1) – ELW 257**

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here

Refrain
un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Joy

P: Gracious God, as we light the third Advent candle of joy, may the joy of your salvation fill us with gladness. Help us to share this joy with others, especially those in?" need. In Jesus' name, we pray. C: Amen

***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (v. 5) – ELW 257**

5 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come,

and o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;

make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mi - se-ry.

Refrain
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u-el shall come to you, O Is - ra-el.

Prayer of The Day

P: The Lord be with you, **C: and also with you.** P: Let us pray.

C: Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen
(please be seated)

First reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. 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. Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No 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. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away. Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Luke 1:46b-55 – sing to ELW 315

1 My soul pro - claims with joy The
 2 The Lord has fav - ored me; All
 3 The migh - ty are cast down, And
 4 He comes to us to keep The

great - ness of the Lord; My spi - rit will re -
 a - ges will pro - claim That God has done great
 low - ly ones are raised; He fills the hun - gry
 pro - mise made be - fore To A - bra - ham and

joice in him, My sav - ior and my God.
 things for me, And ho - ly is his Name.
 with good things And sends the rich a - way.
 all his heirs Of mer - cy e - ver - more.

Second reading: James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia (setting 3) – ELW p. 142

(please stand)

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them,

“Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Pastor Manuel Borbón *(please be seated)*

Hymn of the Day *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying* - ELW 436 *(please stand)*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

P: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

P: God of Grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

P: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **C: Amen.**

The Peace

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

We invite you to share a sign of God's peace with those around you.

Offering

Anthem *The King Shall Come* – Joseph Martin

Offertory

The Offering Prayer *(please stand)*

C: Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving (setting 3) ELW p. 144

Holy Holy, Holy - (setting 3) ELW p. 144

Words of Institution

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Thanksgiving acclamation - (setting 3) ELW p. 146

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

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion *(please be seated)*

The Agnus Dei *Lamb of God* – ELW p. 146

The Communion of Christ's People

Communion Voluntary *Greensleeves* – Richard Purvis

Blessing after Communion

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Prayer after Communion

C: God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Announcements

Sending Hymn *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* - ELW 244 (vs. 1 – 3)

Blessing *(please stand)*

P: May God who comes among us, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **C: Amen**

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Carol Rhapsody* – Richard Purvis

Serving Us Today

Pastor Manuel Borbón

Choir Director: Katy Lundeen

Organist: Charles F. von Gunten

Reader: Lili Muñoz

Communion Assistants: Nancy & Sarah Groesbeck

Welcome Team: Gary Lange, Harriet Morris, Holly Boyle, Bill Fredricks

Offering Couriers: Lewis John TenHulzen, Jeff Archer

AV: Lewis John TenHulzen & Mitchell Little

Slides Creator: Lorri Carlsen

All are Welcome! As a community of faith the members of Clairemont Lutheran Church/ Iglesia Luterana Clairemont are called to include all people seeking a relationship with Jesus, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, immigration status or marital status. We gather as one congregation, worshiping in two languages, celebrating many cultures. We affirm that in Christ "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female" (Galatians 3:28)

FIRST TIME HERE? Welcome to Clairemont Lutheran Church. For those who are here for the first time we have a welcome gift for you on the table in the Narthex. Please see one of the greeters in the Narthex to receive your gift. Thank you for being with us today.

FOR THOSE IN NEED If you are facing challenges in life, we have cards with prayers for you, located on the table in the narthex on the following subjects. 1. Anxiety 2. Coping with the death of a loved one. 3. Dealing with discouragement and despair. 4. Hope. 5. Loneliness. 6. Need for forgiveness and 7. Patience.

Remember in Prayer: Mark Nickel, Bev Covey, Ruth Andersen, Adrienne Lenhoff, Paul Brown, Ken Hanson, Lee Shigley, Maria Medrano, Clark Carlson, Stella Penyak, Barb Kanneman, LaRae Rabe, Lewis TenHulzen, Emilie Lauchmen, Renée Shepherd, Bob Logan, Peggy Ritchie, Jack & Jean Shirley, Carla Faulk, Maria Luisa Velasquez, and all the homebound members.

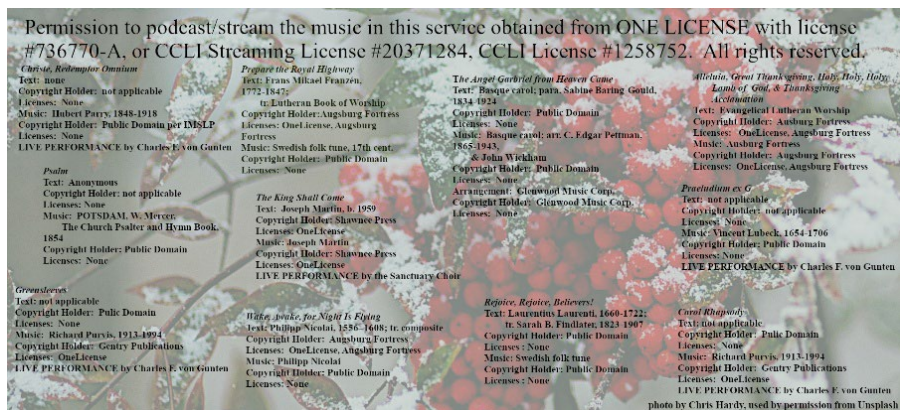
Lecturn flowers are given to the Glory of God by Gary Lange in dedication to Pastor Manuel's first year at CLC. He and his family's diligent work in expanding CLC's ministry have been a blessing to all of us.

Next Week's Lessons: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19, Genesis 22:15-18, Isaiah 9:2, 6-7, Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9, Luke 1: 26-35, 38, Luke 2:1-7, Luke 2:8-16, Matthew 2:1-12, & John 1:1-14.

The Zoom studies for the coming Sunday led by Bill Fredericks will be on hiatus for the next few weeks. They will resume on Monday, November 24, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. You can contact Bill at williamhfedericks@gmail.com.

IFS: We are once again hosting here at CLC/ILC! Our date for this season covers three weeks; 31 Jan - 22 Feb 2026. We will need overnight chaperones and cooking teams for each day. Also, we'll need to rebuild our supply of bed sheets and towel sets (16 - 20 each) and have hygiene kits (M/F) ready. If you are willing to provide any part of these needed supplies or can sign up to support with your time to cook or chaperone, or just need further information please see James Acosta at the back of the church after service. Donations to any of the supplies or food are also needed. Please mark your check with IFS Support and make the check payable to CLC. Your time, talent, treasure and prayers are needed and I thank you in advance! Three weeks is a challenge, and we will need all hands!

Charles' Music Notes: The choir anthem is taken from *Rhapsody in Bluegrass* which the choirs sang for their Christmas concert last Sunday. It is a joyful cantata based on folk songs, spirituals, bluegrass-styled carols and original gospel songs combining traditional choral elements with the rustic qualities of the mountain music. The work debuted at Carnegie Hall. The text of the gathering hymn, *Prepare the Royal Highway*, alludes to Isaiah 40:3-5 in a Scandinavian contribution by Frans Franzen published in 1722. The dancing tune was first published in 1697. The text for the sending hymn, *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*, is based on Matthew 25:1-13, and was first published in 1700. The tune is a Swedish folk melody that matches the rejoicing of the text.



Come share Christmas Events with us!

Sunday, December 14th: Advent 3 -Worship: 09:30 AM (English) and 11:30 AM (Español)

La Posada, 5:30pm - La Posada commemorates the journey that Joseph and Mary made. Hope to see you tonight!

Thursday, December 18th: Longest Night Service (Grief during the holidays) 7:00 PM (English)

Christmas Eve Services: Servicio de Adoración: 5:30 PM (Español) and Candlelight Worship 8:00 PM Worship (English)



Monday December 15

4:00pm Gospel Study on zoom

5:30-6:30pm Glee Choir,

6:30-7:30pm Esperanza Youth Choir,

7:30-9pm Sanctuary Choir

Thursday December 18

10:00am MorningStar

5:00pm Stephen Ministry

7:00pm Longest Night Service

Friday December 19

8am-12pm Food Distribution



Please return the completed form with dedication **PRINTED LEGIBLY**
to the church office by Wednesday December 14th

Poinsettia donation is \$15.00. ____
Gifts of music of any amount are welcome. ____
Whatever is needed. ____

Donated by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Celebration of: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Payable to Clairemont Lutheran Church
4271 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92117

Poinsettias may be picked up on December 26th.