

EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024, 10:30 AM
Austin Campus Praise Worship (Livestreamed)

Gather

GATHERING SONG: *THE FATHER'S HOUSE*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: *LIGHT ONE CANDLE*

#240

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954 © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

SONG OF PRAISE: *WAITING FOR YOU*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: From the one who is and who was and who is to come, grace and peace be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Word

WELCOMING THE CHILDREN

FIRST READING: *ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20*

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ 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 ¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ 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.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

A: The word of the Lord.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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

SERMON

NICENE CREED

A: Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith.
C: **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.**

SONG OF THE DAY: *HALLELUJAH ANYWAY*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (*after each petition...*)

A: Lord, in your mercy,
C: **hear our prayer.**

M e a l

SHARING THE PEACE

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

OFFERING: *HOLY SPIRIT*

OFFERING PRAYER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...join their unending hymn:
C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One....

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: 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.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: 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.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

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

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

If you are unable to attend worship due to health concerns, please contact the church office to be included on the homebound list.

Christ welcomes you to the meal of grace! All who desire to receive Christ's nourishment and grace may join us at the Lord's Table. Please come to the table by the center aisle and return to your seat by the front or side aisle. Communion is by intinction; dip the bread in the red wine or white grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION SONG: *COME TO THE WATER*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Send

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG: *BLESSED BE YOUR NAME*

SENDING

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer
Preaching Minister: Pastor Grant Eckhart, Jacob's Porch
ELCA ministry at The Ohio State University
Assisting Minister: Natalie Heimann
Praise Team: Gabe Ferraiuolo, Carlin Heimann, Craig Hoerig,
Dick Lane, Mary Miller, Bill Norman
A/V: Ed Wasser, Owen Smith
Stream Team: Scott Haligowski, Ryan Pearson
Ushers: Stephanie Fulton
Communion: The Manning Family

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