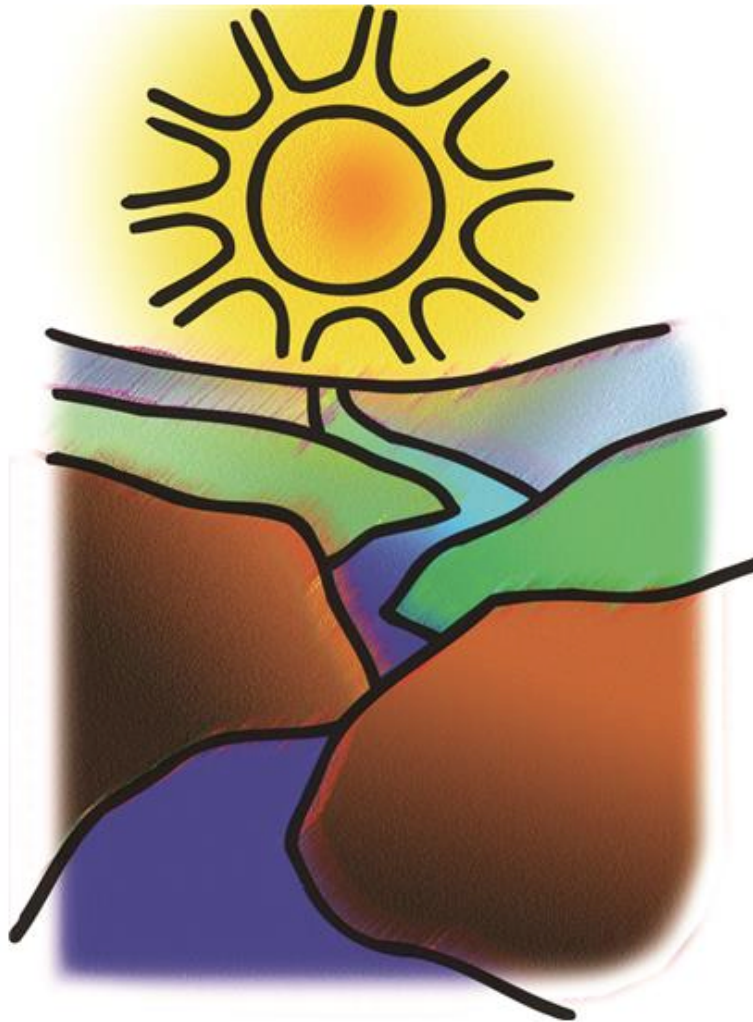


# Third Sunday of Advent



## Word and Sacrament

*“Little Church with a BIG Heart”*

## Saint Bartholomew Lutheran Church

December 15, 2024 11:00AM



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## **Welcome to Worship**

This morning we celebrate the **Third Sunday of Advent**. The lyrics to the hymns are in the red hymnals in front of you. We extend special greetings to all our guests who are with us today. Your presence, along with our members and friends, is truly valued. Know that all of God's people are always welcome here at St. Bartholomew.

## **Holy Communion**

Saint Bart's celebrates the real presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. We invite all to come and share. At the time of communion, you will come up to the Altar and receive communion.

## **Praying People**

Everyone is invited to offer their prayer concerns during the Prayers of the Church.

## **Third Sunday of Advent**

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one "more powerful" than John, even with a winnowing fork in hand, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the Third Sunday of Advent.

## **Announcements**

**Council meeting** after fellowship today

**Blue Christmas service** at Prince of Peace Wednesday at 6PM

**Christmas Toy Drive** Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 11AM

New, unwrapped gifts for children are needed!

**Bell choir practice** Sunday, December 22 at 9:30AM

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM

**Lessons & Carols PLUS** potluck fellowship December 29<sup>th</sup> at 11AM

- Looking ahead:

**Enid's Pantry** will be closed until **January**

**Annual Congregational Meeting** January 26<sup>th</sup>

**ESL Classes** resume in February 2025

The **Eternal candle** is lit in honor of our partner churches: Prince of Peace, Abiding Presence, St. Paul, and St. Mark

We can use any food or monetary donations to help our community in need.

**Are there any other announcements**

Bell / Prelude

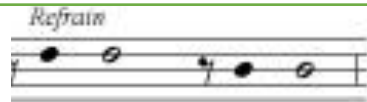
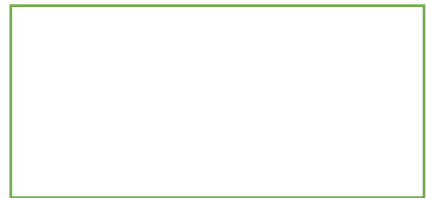
**Advent 3**

O God, the reality of your coming fills us with joy today. As we enter this third week of Advent, and as we witness the lighting of the first, second, and third candles, empower us to be living signs of your joy in our homes, our schools, our places of work, and our communities. In your holy name we pray, Amen!

*Light 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & and Pink Candle*

**HYMN:** ELW: # 257 Vs. 5 & 6

- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heav'nly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
  
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*



Re-joice! Re-joice!



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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Confession and Forgiveness*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
alive in the world,  
reviving creation,  
arriving soon.

**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 mercy,  
C **we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**  
**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

P God of might,  
C **we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have turned away from our neighbors.**  
**We have trusted false promises.**

P God in our midst,  
C **we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We plead: come to us.**  
**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

P A righteous branch springs forth:  
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,  
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through † Christ Jesus,  
whose day draws near.

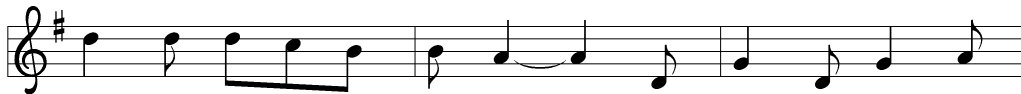
C **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 242**

## Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen  
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## APOSTOLIC GREETING

**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**

### ■ Kyrie



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

### Canticle of Praise



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.



## Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## WORD

**A** I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth (Psalm 34:1). Lord, bless the reading of your word. Make it come alive in our midst.

**C** **Amen.**

First Reading: **Zephaniah 3:14-20**

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

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

<sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup> 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

<sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival.  
I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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 Word of God, word of life.
- C Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsive Reading: Isaiah 12:2-6**

- A Surely God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the Lord God is my strength and my might,  
and has become my salvation.
- C With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation**
- A And you will say in that day:  
Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name;  
make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations;  
proclaim that this name is exalted.
- C Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be known in all the earth.**
- A Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

## Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

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

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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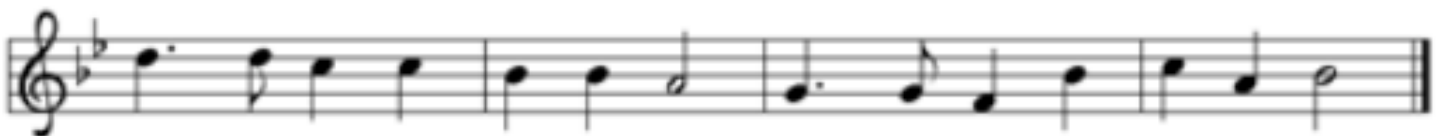
## Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to **Luke the 3<sup>rd</sup>** chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel: Luke 3:7-18**

<sup>7</sup> 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? <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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.”

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” <sup>13</sup> He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” <sup>14</sup> 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.”

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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.”

<sup>18</sup> 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

**Hymn of the Day:** ELW # 239

## Hark, the Glad Sound!



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

## PEACE

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

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**P** Let us all affirm our faith by using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**C** **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 he 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

Each petition ends:

A Lord, in your mercy

C **Receive our prayer**

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and other disasters (*especially hurricanes and wildfires*). Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who leads, this world cries out for true justice, *especially in Palestine, Israel, Ukraine, and Sudan*. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. (*We pray especially for Kylie, Crystal, Laura, Nick, Bob, Ellie, Justin, Billy, Rich, Margarita, Mary Beth, Courtney, and Tony*). Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another, and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for our partner churches: Abiding Presence and Prince of Peace; We also pray for the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays especially Violet Teschke; and for those celebrating anniversaries; also for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

At this time, you may offer up prayers for loved ones, thanksgivings to God, or any other intercessions silently or aloud... **(Pause) Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died, *especially Enid Rivera, on the anniversary of her birth*. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

(Pastor) Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

## THE OFFERING

Online offering: <https://www.stbartlutheran.org/donate>

### **Offering Prayer**

P Creator God,  
you made the whole world,  
even the farthest stars,  
and you draw near to feed us.  
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.  
Strengthen us with this food  
that we may live in expectation  
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## 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 thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

P It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.  
He is the one foretold by all the prophets,  
whom the Virgin Mother bore with love beyond all telling.  
John the Baptist was his herald and made him known when  
at last he came.  
In his love Christ fills us with joy as we prepare to  
celebrate his birth, so that when he comes again he may  
find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder  
and praise.  
And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the  
company of heaven, we proclaim your glory,  
and join in their unending hymn of praise.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

**P** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C** Amen

## Lord's Prayer

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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, the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.**

### Invitation

P God feeds us with tender mercy.

Come to the table

**C Amen.**

### Distribution

#### Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace

**C Amen.**

Post Communion Blessing

(STAND)

**P** Generous God,  
we thank you for the gift of life,  
for the bread of salvation.  
We thank you for coming among us,  
for leading us into peace.  
We thank you for showering us with mercy,  
for sending us into the world.  
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us  
as we feed the hungry in your name.

**C Amen.**

### **Benediction**

**+Sending+**

**P** God of endings and beginnings,  
God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey,  
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Sending Hymn: ELW # 267**

## Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Dismissal

**A** Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude*