

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Dennis A. Wenholz

Rev. Khai N. Lee

The Third Sunday in Advent

December 11, 2022

*The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.*

**DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE**

**PRELUDE**

*Organist*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Peace Handbell Choir*

*“Three French Carols” – Brian Tervo*

**OPENING HYMN “Hark the Glad Sound” LSB 349**

- 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne  
And ev'ry voice a song.
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav'n's eternal arches ring  
With Thy beloved name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-51 Text: Public domain



## Confession and Absolution

Stand

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the

command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

**C Amen.**

## Service of the Word

**INTROIT** *Psalm 7 1:14–18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4*

P Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

**C I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more.**

P My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day, for their number is past my knowledge.

**C With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come; I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

P O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

**C So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.**

**GLORIA PATRI** *LSB 186*



☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

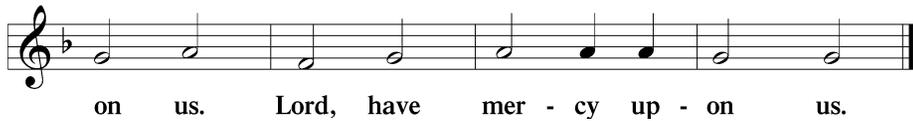


as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

**KYRIE** *Mark 10:47* *LSB 186*



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*LSB 189*

P The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

*Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT**

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;  
<sup>2</sup>it 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.  
<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.  
<sup>4</sup>Say 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.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then 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;

<sup>7</sup>the 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.

<sup>8</sup>And 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.

<sup>9</sup>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.

<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL**

*Psalms 146*

P 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.**

- P 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.**
- P 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;**
- P 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.**
- P 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!**

**EPISTLE**

*James 5:7–12*

<sup>7</sup>Be 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. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, 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.

<sup>12</sup>But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**ALLELUIA**

*LSB 190*

Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Matthew 11:2–15*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the 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. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As 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? <sup>8</sup>What then

did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.’

<sup>11</sup>Truly, 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. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## NICENE CREED

*LSB 191*

**C I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down  
from heaven**

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin  
Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the  
Scriptures and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both  
the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is  
worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic  
Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of  
sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” LSB 515 (Tune: LSB 523)*

- 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
And let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing,  
And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising  
And soon is drawing nigh.

Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain  
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;  
Go forth as He approaches  
With alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
The gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience  
Their cross and suff'rings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever  
When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
The Lamb they shall behold;  
In triumph cast before Him  
Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, O Sun so longed for,  
O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption  
That sets Your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### SERMON

Rev. Dennis Wenholz

**“Vengeance--Danger--And Joy”** Isaiah 35:1-10

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:7*

### C Amen.

Stand

### OFFERTORY *Psalm 51:10-12*

LSB 192



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

### LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

LSB 196

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.**

**SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS**

P The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

**BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24-26*

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

**CLOSING HYMN**

*“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding”* LSB 345 (Tune: LSB 427)

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!  
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.  
“Cast away the works of darkness,  
All you children of the day!”
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

*LSB 201*

*2 Timothy 4:22*

*[Psalm 103:1]*

*LSB 202*

- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all, to be forgiv’n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
He will shield us with His mercy  
And with words of love draw near.
- △ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion  
To the Father and the Son  
With the ever-living Spirit  
While eternal ages run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.  
Text: Public domain

**CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**POSTLUDE**

*Organist*

**Acknowledgments**

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