

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

Advent Midweek #3

December 20, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

*“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

(sts. 1, 4, 5) LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er  
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in  
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,  
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.  
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

## **INVOCATION**

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

**People:** Amen.

## **CONFESSION AND GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS**

**Pastor:** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**People:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

**People:** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**Pastor:** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

**People:** Amen.

## **GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER**

**Pastor:** The Lord, be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Let us pray . . .

Gracious Father, in your great love for the world you have given us the gift of your only Son as the light of the nations and the

glory of Israel.

**People:** Open our hearts to receive him and sanctify our lives to proclaim your grace through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**HYMN**

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

(sts. 1, 6, 7) LSB 357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us  
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the

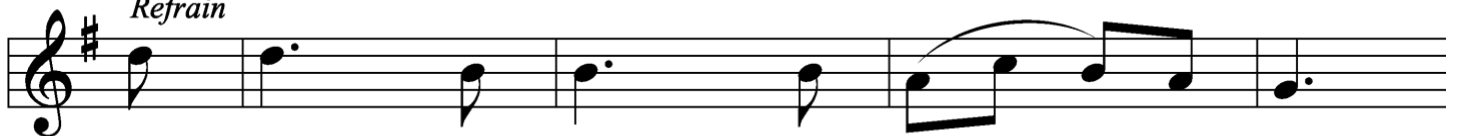


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y  
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

*Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text and tune: Public domain

## ✠ WORD ✠

### EPISTLE READING

*Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15 (ESV)*

The Lord said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the Lord brought you out from this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten.

<sup>11</sup>“When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the Lord all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the Lord’s. <sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 2:25-35 (ESV)*

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.

<sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

<sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

# HYMN

## “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 380



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

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# SERMON

## “The Hymn’s of Advent: Simeon’s Song”

Luke 2:25-35

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come 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 T everlasting. Amen.

## **MINISTRY MINUTE**

**Text-to-give: 810-285-7861**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **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.

### **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and grant you His peace.

**People:** Amen.

# SENDING HYMN

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

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