

Trinity Lutheran Church

December 11th, 2022

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master,

grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

AMEN

the instruments of

Advent



Advent Worship 2022

Trinity Lutheran Church
1250 Broadway St.
Hammond, WI 54015
715-796-2788 Church office
www.trinityhammond.org
trinitylutheranhammond@gmail.com



Pastor: Kim Suhr
tlchpastor@gmail.com
715-821-6398 (cell)
Musician: Darcy Christensen
December 11th, 2022

Bulletin Sponsor: none

Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Piano solos provided by Elijah and Emilyn Suhr
Darcy Christensen - *How Great Our Joy*

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.*

Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.

*Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.
God of new beginnings,*

we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.

We have strayed from your paths.

We prepare for war instead of peace.

We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire

and set us again on your way of love,

that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,

and welcome your coming among us.

Amen.

*People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch, a living sign.*

By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.

You have put on \mp Christ, and your sins have been washed away.

Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ELW 836

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922

GREETING

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

MUSIC *We Lift the Light of Hope*

We lift the light of joy, O God,
Your praise is our delight!
Your blessings flow that all may know
Unbounded joy in Christ.
Your blessings flow that all may know
Unbounded joy in Christ

Advent Wreath Litany

L: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

C: whose hope is in the Lord their God,

*L: who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;*

C: who keeps faith for ever;

*L: who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.*

C: The Lord sets the prisoners free;

L: the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**C: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.**

L: The Lord watches over the strangers;

**C: he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

L: The Lord will reign for ever,

C: your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

*When confusion claims us
When we feel unable to do anything right
The Holy invites us to be faithful
That we may find Joy
(Light candle of Joy)*

Where in the world do we find Joy these days?

MUSIC *Instruments of Your Peace*

Lord, make us instruments of Your peace,
where there is hatred let Your love increase;
Lord, make us instruments of Your peace,
walls of pride and prejudice shall cease,
when we are Your instruments of peace.

READING: Isaiah 35: 1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

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 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.

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 unstopped; 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.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Gospel Acclamation

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come to us like joy of heaven's dawn,
From Mary's womb a faithful paragon
Brought forth into this world by love's power
Your Spirit through her labors in that hour
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us
And all things shall be well

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

L: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C: 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, the lepers 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."

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Kim Suhr

- 1 People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Guest, is on the way.
- 2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flow'r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Rose, is on the way.
- 3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Star, is on the way.
- 4 Angels announce with shouts of mirth
him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today—
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

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NICENE CREED

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG *Little Drummer Boy* – with Aiden Kost on drums

*1. Come they told me. Parum pum pum pum
A newborn King to see. Parum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring. Parum pum pum pum
To lay before the King. Parum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum. Rum pum pum pum
So to honour Him. Parum pum pum pum
When we come*

*2. Baby Jesus. Parum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too. Parum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring. Parum pum pum pum
That's fit to give our King. Parum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum. Rum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you. Parum pum pum pum
On my drum*

*3. Mary nodded. Parum pum pum pum
The ox and Lamb kept time. Parum pum pum pum
I played my drum for Him. Parum pum pum pum
I played my best for Him. Parum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum. Rum pum pum pum
Then He smiled at me. Parum pum pum pum
Me and my drum*

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OFFERING PRAYER

God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

MUSIC *Song of Blessing*

May God give you eyes to see
All that is good, all that is good
The courage for anything
May you be strong, may you be strong
May God give you ears to hear
His loving voice, his loving voice
Speaking all around you
All around and deep inside

CLOSING HYMN Joy to the World ELW 267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Joy of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.