

Third Sunday in Advent
“Chrismons”
December 13, 2020
9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” by Paul Manz Carla Barrows, Organ

WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN “Prepare the Royal Highway” LSB 343, vs. 1, 3, 4

ALL: Prepare the royal highway; The King of kings is near!
Let ev’ry hill and valley A level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory Foretold in sacred story:

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, For He fulfills God’s Word!

QUARTET: *Then fling the gates wide open To greet your promised king!*
Your king, yet ev’ry nation Its tribute too should bring.
All lands, bow down before Him! All nations, now adore Him! Refrain

ALL: His is no earthly kingdom; It comes from heav’n above.
His rule is peace and freedom And justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding For kindness so abounding: **Refrain**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - JOY Bob Carl Family

Ensemble: *Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the world began to be,*
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He.

All (sung): Emmanuel, Emmanuel, evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.

Reader: During Advent, we wait for the One promised in Scripture.

All: **And He will be called Mighty God.**

Reader: We wait for the One whose power has no limits and whose strength knows no end.

All: **And He will be called Mighty God.**

Reader: We wait for the One whose everlasting light can illuminate the darkest night.

All: **And He will be called Mighty God.**

Reader: We wait for the One whose mercy never ends and whose faithfulness endures forever.

All: **And He will be called Mighty God.**

Candle Lighting

Reader: Today we light three candles. The first candle reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The second candle reminds us that Jesus came to earth as the Prince of Peace. As we light the third candle, we reflect on the joy we have in knowing a God who is almighty, all-knowing, and always present. Continuing our Advent journey, we joyfully celebrate a Savior who brings hope and peace and whose power and strength have no limits.

Ensemble: *Let the heights of heaven adore Him; angel hosts His praises sing: Powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King.*

All (sung): **Emmanuel, Emmanuel, evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.**

Ensemble: *Evermore and evermore, Emmanuel.*

Reader: Gracious Lord, we thank You for Your promises and for coming to earth and bringing the power of almighty God. As we continue our Advent journey, help us know the joy that comes from resting in Your power, and help us spread this joy everywhere we go today and every day. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

R The Old Testament Reading is from the 61st Chapter of Isaiah.

R ¹The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation; He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

R The Epistle Reading is from the 5th Chapter of 1st Thessalonians.

R ¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. (ESV)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 173

- C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL John 1:6-8, 19-28

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st Chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the Light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the Light, but came to bear witness about the Light. . . .

¹⁹This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." ²²So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands One you do not know, ²⁷even He who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. (ESV)

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

- C** 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 everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Haley Davisson

MESSAGE Pastor Michael P. Dorn

OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING. “Keep Your Lamps” arr. Andre Thomas. Men’s Quartet

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Children, don’t get weary,
Children, don’t get weary,
Children, don’t get weary,
‘Til your work is done:*

*Children, don’t get weary,
Children, don’t get weary,
Children, don’t get weary,
‘Til your work is done.*

*Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.*

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN. "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers". LSB 515, vs. 1, 2, 4

ALL: 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.

QUARTET: *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.*

ALL: 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!

POSTLUDE. "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come". Carla Barrows, Organ
setting by John Leavitt

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Divine Service, Setting 2 from Lutheran Service Book

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