

Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, Dec. 17th, 2017
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)
Setting 4, p. 147



Assisting Today:

Reader – Randy Rodgers
Assistant – Ron Shearer
Cantor – Krista Quenneville
Counting – Chris Nicol & Ian
McGill

Next Sunday:

Reader – Joana Malina
Assistant – Randy Rogers
Cantor – Julia Wirth

Piano/Organ/Choir Director: David Santry
Church Secretary: Debra Boyd-Chisholm

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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GATHERING AND WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN *Awake, Awake* (ELW 242)

GREETING (ELW p. 147)

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.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 147)

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (verses 1-3, ELW 240)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit,

we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHAT

The children are invited to leave for Sunday School

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

A reading from Isaiah.

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

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 wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being 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 with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MAGNIFICAT: Luke 1:46b-55

A reading from Luke.

⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷**and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,**

⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹**for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.**

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁵¹**He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.**

⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³**he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.**

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵**according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."**

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

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 the words of prophets, ²¹but

test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (ELW p. 151)



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

The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.”

²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” ²²Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for 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.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” ²⁶John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.”

²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HYMN: *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness* (ELW 251)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *O Come O Come Emmanuel* (ELW 257)

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME (ELW p. 234)

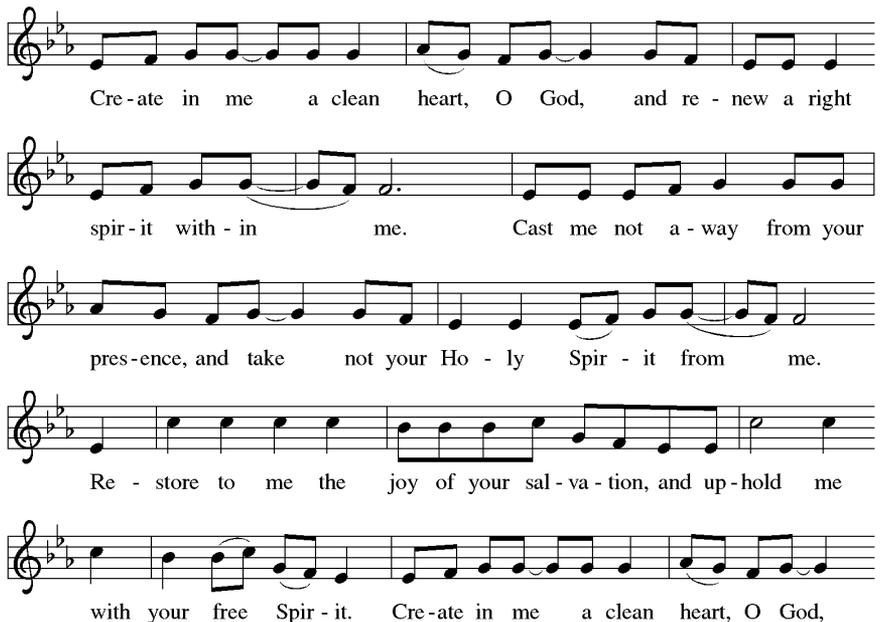
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

GIFT GATHERING AND SONG



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 your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience

and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (ELW p. 152)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)

COMMUNION HYMNS

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus (ELW 254)

O Wait for the Lord (ELW 262)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG: *He Came Down* (ELW 253)

DISMISSAL

All who desire communion with Jesus and approach the sacrament with faith, are welcome at the Lord's Table. While both the common cup and individual glasses are offered, we encourage the use of the common cup to emphasize the unity we share in the Body of Christ, the church (please indicate your preference to the servers). A non-alcohol option is available in the tray. You may also partake of bread only, or come to the table for a blessing only.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME: Please welcome and pray for our newest members: Trevor May, Gord Fricker, Barbra Fricker, Jessica Fricker, Erica Fricker, and Norman Richter.

THANK YOU: Marla and Bill DeGraaff wish to thank the congregation for all their prayers over the last month as Marla recovers from surgery. The support has been greatly appreciated

OFFICE HOURS: As of January 8, 2018, Pastor Martin will be in his study on Mondays from noon until 1:30, Wednesdays from 6-7:30pm and Thursdays from 1-2:30pm. If you wish to meet with him, please contact him (pastormartin@faithottawa.ca /613-224-1971) to make an appointment either during these hours or at another mutually convenient time. Midday on Thursdays Debbie Boyd-Chisholm (secretary) will be in the church office printing the bulletin. These times are subject to change so please call ahead if you would like to drop by. Thank you.

WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING on Monday, Jan. 15 at 6:30.

OTTAWA MISSION ITEMS: Until January 7th, we are collecting items for residents of The Ottawa Mission. The list of needed items is posted on the bulletin board. Please place your contributions in the boxes in the cloakroom. Thank you!

The **PURSE PROJECT** helps woman in need at local shelters. Donations of purses and/or sample toiletries will be accepted until today and dropped off at a women's shelter before the holidays. Please speak to Bruce Riley for more information.

DAILY BREAD: The new 'Daily Bread' booklets for Dec/Jan/Feb have arrived and are available near the mailboxes.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

- * Sunday, Dec 24:
 - 10:00 am - Advent 4 (Taize)
 - 5:00 pm - Christmas Eve (Word and Song)
 - 8:00 pm - Christmas Eve (Candlelight and Communion)
- * Monday, Dec 25 at 10:00 am - Christmas Day with our guests from Julian of Norwich (Communion)

Please check the bulletin board in the narthex for details about these and other community events.

Please submit bulletin announcements to the Secretary (613-224-1972 or secretary@faithottawa.ca) before noon on Wednesdays.