

COMMUNION HYMNS:

Lamb of God (ELW 195)

Comfort, Comfort My People (ELW 256)

The King Shall Come (ELW 260)

The Angel Gabriel (ELW 265)



3rd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 15th, 2019

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

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: *People Look East* (ELW 248)

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

LECTIONARY STUDY: Monday, December 16, 2 pm. Lectio: Matt 1:18-25.

MEDITATION GROUP: Wednesday, December 18, 5 pm, at FLC.

FELC's Financial Position for the Period Ending November 30, 2019

- Offerings and other income: \$135,048
- Total General Fund expenditures: \$139,420
- Deficit to date: \$4,372

Thank you to all our donors!

A NEW WAY TO PRAY: Join us tomorrow, 7-8:30 pm, for our last Advent Study where we are reading T. Blythe's *Fifty Ways to Pray* and watching *The Prayer Box*.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Pick up a free copy of the Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada Christmas Newsletter, available on the church mailbox table.

OTTAWA MISSION: Until December 22, donate items for men living at the Mission in the cloak room boxes. Speak with Wendy Hall or see the bulletin board for more information.



Pastor: Martin Malina

Honorary Assistant Pastor: Diane Raddatz

Church Secretary: Debra Boyd-Chisholm

Assisting Today:

Lector: Brian Wirth

Assistant: Ron Shearer

Musician: Sharon Wirth

Cantor: Krista Quenneville

Ushers: Ann Medaglia

& Ken Roeske

Counters: Ian McGill &

Peter Nabein

Next Sunday:

Lector: Melvin Schwalm

Assistant: Wayne Fortier

Musician: Sharon Wirth

Ushers: Laurel & Randy Rodgers

Counters: Jann Thulien

& Ken Roeske

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GATHERING AND WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

HYMN: *Prepare the Royal Highway* (ELW 264)

GREETING

KYRIE: (ELW p. 213)

HYMN OF PRAISE: (ELW p. 213)

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Let us pray. **Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

WREATH LIGHTING FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:
“Joy”

Reader 1: In a letter to some of the first Christians, the Apostle Paul writes: “Your love must be real. Hate what is evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like brothers and sisters. Give each other more honor than you want for yourselves. Do not be lazy but work hard, serving the Lord with all your heart. Be joyful because you have hope. Be patient when trouble comes, and pray at all times.”

Reader 2: Today we light the candle of Joy. In the middle of all the holiday craziness, when we’re trying to clean house before company comes, or worrying about how we’re going to pay for everything we maybe shouldn’t have bought, sometimes we lose our joy. When we look at these candles, and the light they give, picture the pure joy we see when a baby smiles, with no fear for the future. That’s the gift God wants to give us. Love, and hope, and joy, as we patiently wait for Jesus to return.

HYMN: *Light One Candle* (ELW 240, v.1-3)

PSALM: Psalm 80 (read responsively by half verse)

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10 A reading from James.

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia* (ELW p. 216)

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

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

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the 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. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷As 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? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly 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.”

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

SERMON: “Prayer as Lament”: Advent sermon series #3 (read along at www.raspberryman.wordpress.com)

HYMN OF THE DAY: *All Earth is Hopeful* (ELW 266)

NICENE CREED: (ELW p. 104 or back cover of hymn book)

PRAYERS OF PETITION: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING THE PEACE

GIFT GATHERING AND SONG: *Create in Me...* (ELW 185)

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.**

MEAL

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: (ELW p. 207)

LORD’S PRAYER: (ELW p. 221)