

Feast of Victory Lutheran Church
4400 Mount Hope Rd., Acme, MI 49610
feastofvictory.org
231-938-1070

Sunday, December 10, 2023
Third Sunday of Advent
Holy Communion

PRESIDING MINISTER, PASTOR HALEY VAY BEAMAN
ASSISTING MINISTER, CHRISTY PAWLOSKI
MUSICIAN, CLIFF KELTO

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.
Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

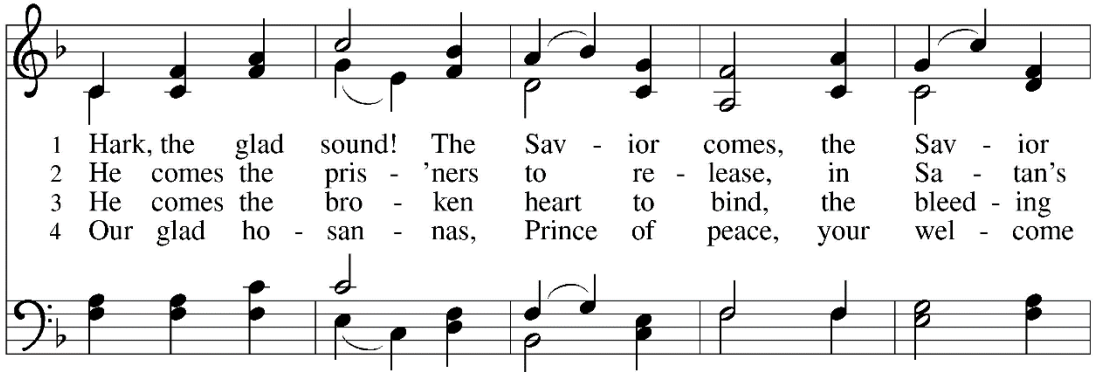
Silence is kept for reflection.

Everlasting God,
you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.
We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.
We are complicit in systems of exploitation.
We choose comfort over courage.
We are careless with creation's bounty.

**Look upon us with mercy.
Turn our hearts again to you.
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.
Amen.**

Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.
In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.
Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN:
HARK, THE GLAD SOUND! ELW 239**



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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.**

KYRIE:

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING COME, LORD JESUS

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a treble clef staff with a melody and a bass clef staff with accompaniment. Chords D and A are indicated above the treble staff. The lyrics are:

1 Come, — Lord Je - sus, come, — Lord Je - sus,
 2 Come, — O Prince of Peace, come, — O Prince of Peace,
 3 Our hearts are o - pen, our hearts are o - pen,
 4 Come, — Im - man - u - el, come, — Im - man - u - el,

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. Chords D, B7, Em, A7, and D are indicated above the treble staff. The lyrics are:

come, — Lord Je - sus:
 come, — O Prince of Peace:
 our hearts are o - pen: come and be born in our hearts.
 come, — Im - man - u - el:

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Please be seated

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126

The psalm is read responsively. The congregation speaks the verses in bold print.

¹When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion, then were we like | those who dream.

²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has done great | things for them.”**

³The Lord has done great | things for us, and we are | glad indeed.

⁴**Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord, like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

⁵Those who | sowed with tears will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed, will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

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.

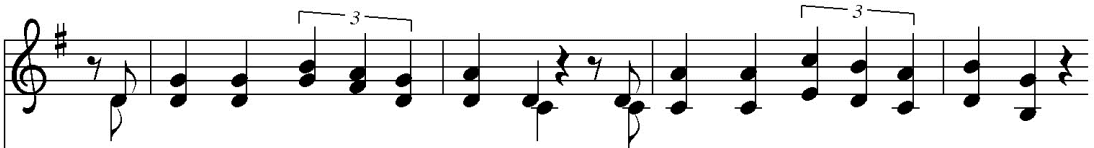
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
HE CAME DOWN,**

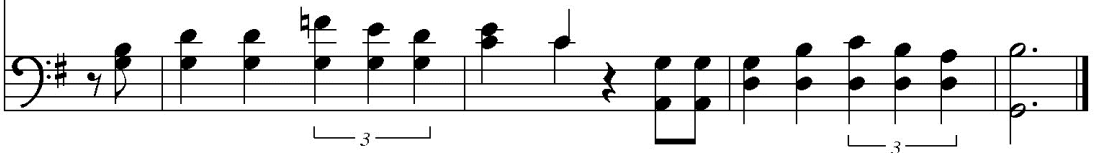
*Within this hymn is a suitable verse for each Sunday in Advent.
This Sunday we sing Verse 4.*



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;



GOSPEL

The gospel for the Third Sunday of Advent is from the gospel according to St. 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.-- **John 1:6-8, 19-28**

The gospel of our Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – PASTOR HALEY VAY BEAMAN

HYMN OF THE DAY: JOY TO THE WORLD, ELW 267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition, the words " God of mercy" are said. The congregation responds to these words by saying "**Receive our prayer.**"

Please sit

OFFERING

Noisy Offering:

Supports: *Community Need Fund & Christ-Sudanese Mission Support*

Pennies from Heaven:

Supports: *ELCA World Hunger*

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG:
LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL, ELW 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u - nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta - ble



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this meal, receive the hope of Christ's resurrection promise.
Come, take your place at the table.

DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to the table where we receive Christ's Real Presence. Please follow the directions of ushers and pastor for coming to the altar. If you wish to receive a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest so the pastor will know. Gluten-free wafers are available, and you may indicate your preference to the pastor when you come forward. Red wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. As you return to your seat, you will find a small basket on the table in which to place your empty cup.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN:
YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART, ELW 484**

Refrain



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



Refrain

so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE NOW LORD



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in



peace: your word has been ful - filled. My



own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of all peo-ple: a light to re -



veal you to the na-tions and the glo - ry of your



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther,



and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and



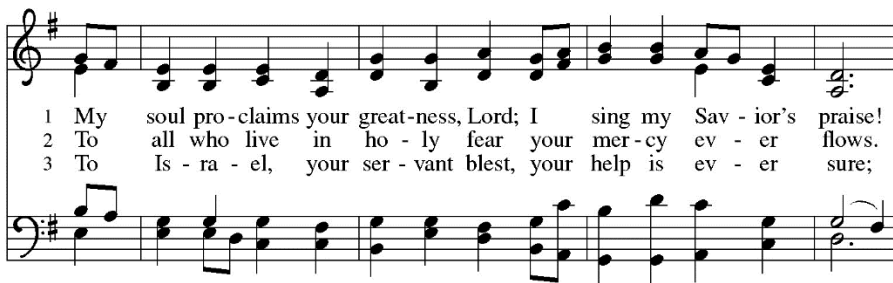
will be for - ev - er. A - men.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

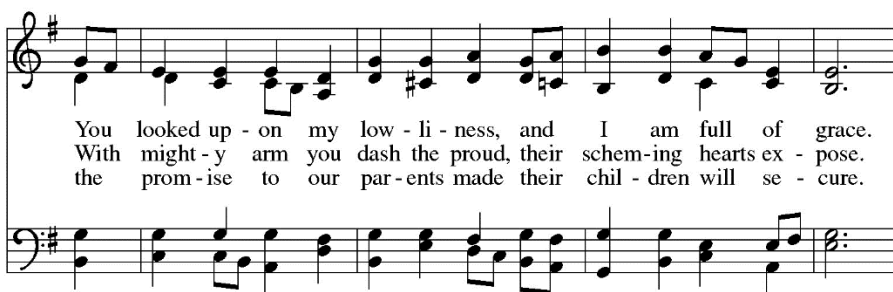
Generous God,
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory
for all people to see together.
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim
your good news of liberation and release,
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

BLESSING

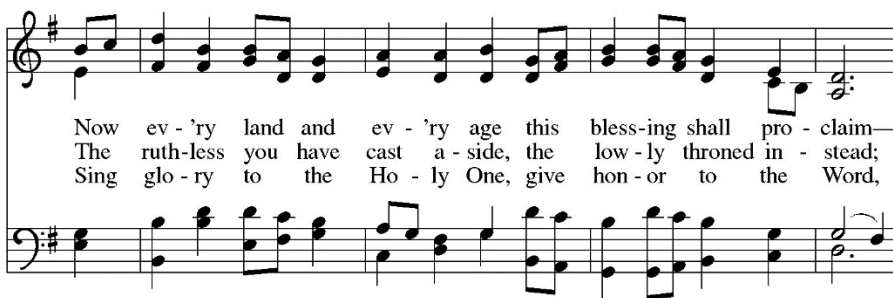
**SENDING HYMN:
MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS, ELW 251**



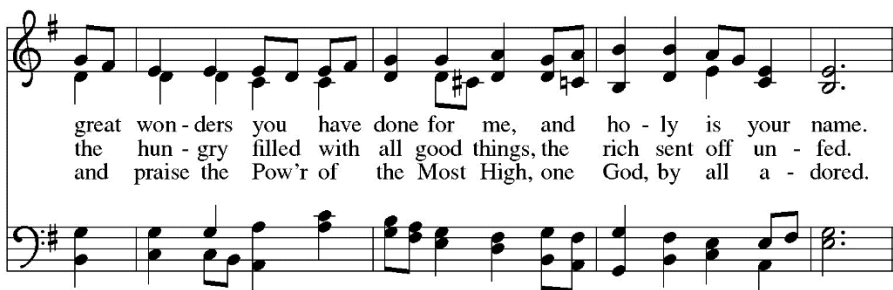
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem - ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless - ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth - less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

WELCOME TO FEAST OF VICTORY: If you are a guest, please sign your name and some form of contact info in our Guest Book, located on the wall desk near the office door entrance, and join us for our fellowship time after our worship service so that we can get to know one another. We are glad that you are worshipping with us today!

WORSHIP NOTES: We are grateful for your presence with us, either in-person or by Zoom, and your commitment to worship God and partake of the Holy Supper. Masks are available but no longer required. Thanks!

You can watch recordings of worship on our website: www.feastofvictory.org

You may use our free Wi-Fi network from the parking lot during the week. Our Wi-Fi network name is 'fov(space)guest'; the password 'is also fov(space)guest'.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated each Sunday. We believe that Jesus is truly present in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. It is Jesus who serves us, bringing us forgiveness of sins, faith and new life, and hope for eternal life. All are welcome to receive the gift of faith and forgiveness that Jesus offers. Infants and children are welcome at the table and will receive a blessing. Please let the pastor know if you need gluten-free bread, and if for any reason you cannot receive wine, grape juice (white) is available.

If you are one of our "Zoomies", please let us know when you need more packets of communion elements from the church. If you are unable to attend worship and would like a visit, or to receive Holy Communion, please contact Jean Friday (231-631-2974) or the church office (231-938-1070) and we will arrange it.

FELLOWSHIP AFTER OUR WORSHIP SERVICE: Special time has been set aside after the service for coffee, juice, treats and conversation. Please plan to make this part of your Sunday morning activities and stay in touch with your "Feast Family". Our Zoomies often have fellowship after the worship service with coffee and conversation, too. You are invited to participate in these important human connections!

NURSERY AVAILABLE: We have a nursery available for parents and small children. It is located in the last room on the right of the main hallway.

Presiding Minister: Pastor Haley Vay Beaman
Assisting Minister: Christy Pawloski
Musician: Cliff Kelto
Reader: Caylyn Moglia
Greeters: Keith & Wendy Overbaugh
Ushers: Keith & Wendy Overbaugh
Communion: Dale Claudepierre
Zoom Operator:
Counter: Jean Friday & Julie Satow
Coffee Host: Doug & Julie Satow

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