

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024
8:00am & 10:30am



*As we gather before the service begins,
we encourage people to use the time as a centering for prayer and meditation.*

We also ask you to silence your phones.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Freu Dich Sehr
Rachel Schmitt, Organist

arr. Michael Burkhardt

Processional Hymn

Comfort, comfort

Hymn #67

(stand as you are able)

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins. (†)

People: **His mercy endures for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant: **A**lmighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Trisagion

Unison Voices

Organ

Ped.

5

10

Ho - ly

God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -

mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Collect for The Third Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

Old Testament

A Reading from Zephaniah

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,
 at the time when I gather you;
 for I will make you renowned and praised
 among all the peoples of the earth,
 when I restore your fortunes
 before your eyes, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9:

“The First Song of Isaiah”

Jack Noble White

The congregation is asked to join the choir singing this refrain after each verse is sung:

ISAIAH 12: 2-6*

JACK NOBLE WHITE

Slow

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the

Lord ng-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

1. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
 from the springs of salvation.
 And on that day you shall say,
 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; **Refrain**
2. Make his deeds known among the peoples;
 see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
 Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
 and this is known in all the world. **Refrain**
3. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
 for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
Refrain (*sung twice*)

Epistle

A Reading from Philippians

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

On Jordan's Banks

Hymn #76

(stand as you are able)

The Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Luke 3:7-18

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath of God? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

(seated)

Sermon

The Reverend Conrad Selnick

A moment of silence is observed after the sermon

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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.

The Prayers of the People

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Presiding Bishop Sean and our Bishop Paula, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President Joseph, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this city of Rockford, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially Nancy, Bob, Sydney, Barbara and family, Jim, Yolanda, Mackenzie, Delbert, Schelley, Jean, those participating in Shelter Care Ministry programs, the victims of gun violence, and the people of Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, and Sudan, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, especially Denis, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those celebrating birthdays, especially Scott *Miles* (12/16), Steve *Wanninger* (12/18), Thailer *Castrey* (12/20), and Elizabeth *Castrey* (12/21), let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are presently serving in the military, especially Pierce, Hayden, Nate, Colin, Tyler, and Harry, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

The celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Confession

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(you may kneel or be seated)

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace and Announcements

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Offertory Anthem

O Come Divine Messiah

Venez/arr. Healy Willan

O come, Divine Messiah, the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph, and sadness flee away.

Dear Savior haste! Come to earth. Dispel the night and show Thy face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace.

O Thou whom nations sighed for, whom priest and prophet long foretold, wilt break the captive fetters, redeem the long-lost fold.

(8:00am spoken)

Offertory Response

Celebrant: All things come of thee O Lord.

People: And of thine own have we given thee.

(10:30am sung)

Offertory Response

Hymn #76

vs. 5

*All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.*

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

(standing)

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant: **I**t is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *(8:00am spoken)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed (†) is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.



(10:30am sung)

(Organ)

Ho - ly, ho - ly,
ho - ly 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.

The musical score is written on six staves in a 2/2 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly 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." The word "Organ" is written below the first staff.

(kneeling or seated)

Celebrant: **W**e give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." (†)

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." (†)

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: **A**nd we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Agnus Dei (8:00 am spoken)

Celebrant and People:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us your peace.

(10:30 sung)

(Organ)

Lamb of

God, you take a - way the sins of the world:

have mer - cy on us. Lamb

of God, you take a - way the sins of the

world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: grant us peace.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Hymn

What is the crying at Jordan

Hymn #69

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing (†)

Recessional Hymn

Prepare the way

Hymn #65

Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Postlude

Vac För Harran

David Chernien

Sunday School each Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Please join us in the undercroft for coffee hour each Sunday after the 8:00am service and from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Emmanuel's Women's Guild meets on the third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in the undercroft, followed by a brown bag lunch. Come join us, we'd love to have you.

*****December's meeting will be held at Kathy Torrence's house.**

Adult Forum Schedule

Today - Multigenerational Advent Activity

December 22 - To be announced

December 29 - No forum

Announcements

Jubilee is asking that we donate for members' Christmas gift cards. Please turn in your contribution to the church office by end of the day today. If paying by check, please write Jubilee gift cards in the memo line.

Lend a helping hand! Anyone interested in learning more about becoming an acolyte (8 a.m, 10:30 a.m., or both) and/or lecture, please email Stacy LaRossa (stacey.sauer@gmail.com) OR Ty Hillman (tylerhillman@comcast.net). We will be coordinating a date for discussion and training for those interested in the near future. A Saturday will be identified soon.

HOLIDAY HELPERS NEEDED: Church volunteers will be preparing and serving a Christmas meal of turkey, ham, and all the trimmings at the Soup Kitchen in the Jubilee Center on Saturday, December 21st. This annual holiday outreach to our neighborhood guests requires the assistance of many volunteers for a variety of duties. Shifts can be anytime between 9 am-2 pm, or maybe you would prefer to make a dessert or donate some warm items for our clothing giveaway. If you are interested in helping in some way, please contact Tammy Lewis at (815) 601-8612 or mstam7@aol.com. We are also in need of turkey carvers. If you are willing and able to help carve, please contact John Birnbaum at 815-209-6822 or by email at jrbirnbaum@aol.com.

Grief Group: meets next on **January 6th at 7 p.m.** Entry at parking lot entrance. All are invited to come.

Book Club: No Book Club in January. Join us on **Tuesday, February 14th at 1pm** in the Janet James Room. February's choice is "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. "Women can be heroes. When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances "Frankie" McGrath hears these words, it is a revelation. Raised in the sun-drenched, idyllic world of Southern California and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing. But in 1965, the world is changing, and she suddenly dares to imagine a different future for herself. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path."

Christmas Services:

Christmas Eve

4pm Children's service

&

9:30pm Prelude

10:00pm Festal Choral Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day

10am

Morning Prayer

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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Website: www.emmanuelrockford.org

Music License Information: OneLicense.net #A-709780

Long-Term Interim Supply.....The Rev. Conrad Selnick
Cheryl Rogers Treasurer
Andrea Mawyer Parish Administrator
Andrew Jessop Director of Social Media
Timothy Borden Sexton
Vestry Members Sean Cramer- Sr. Warden, Judy Pike- Jr. Warden,
Mary G. Johnson- Clerk, Mickey Swart,
Travis Castrey, Maryanne Theyerl, Jean Frana,
Ginny Hatwich, Valerie Sanders, & Mark Baldwin

Assisting in the Liturgy

8:00 a.m. Server: Tyler Hillman
 Lector: Clare Kagan

10:30 a.m. Crucifer/MC: Stacey LaRosa
 1st Reading: Mary Dammann
 2nd Reading: Dennis Horton
 Prayers of the People: Mary Kaull
 Altar Guild: Mary Johnson
 Ushers: John & Rosa Birnbaum

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