

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 11, 2022

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English Website: [elc-cl.faithlivesites.com](http://elc-cl.faithlivesites.com)

**IN OUR PRAYERS** we remember: Beverly Baker, Mildred Peters, Marsha Neely

**ORDER OF WORSHIP:** Order of Service      Hymns      387    367    388

### THIS WEEK AT PEACE AND ENGLISH:

**TODAY Dec. 11 4:00 p.m. Christmas Program**

Dec. 11 8:15 a.m. Worship at English

Dec. 11 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

Dec. 11 10:15 a.m. Worship at Peace

Dec. 11 10:15 a.m. Christmas Program Practice

Dec. 13 **NO** 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

Dec. 13 6:00 p.m. Secret Pal Christmas Party

Dec. 13 6:30 p.m. Bible Study at English

Dec. 14 9:30 a.m. Quilting

Dec. 14 3:30 p.m. Daughters of Peace Christmas Party

Dec. 14 5:15-6:30 p.m. Confirmation

Dec. 14 7:00 p.m. Advent Service

Dec. 17 9:00 a.m. Woman's Prayer Group

**BIBLE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:** Isaiah 7:10-17 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** Our hymn of the day is *Go Tell It on the Mountain*. The night Jesus was born, shepherds kept watch in their fields by night, and angels appeared in the heavens to announce the birth of the savior. He wasn't in a palace in nearby Jerusalem, but lying in a manger in Bethlehem. We all know that part of the story. But do you know what the shepherds did after they found the Christ child? They told others what the angels had told them. Now that we have found the Christ child, we too have the opportunity to share what we have found with others. Go tell it on the mountain!

**A WORD:** Our Old Testament reading is a picture of life on the way to heaven. Isaiah asks us to imagine a desert made lush from the gift of water. The desert is usually a place of trial and testing, but when God gives his blessing, it becomes a place of abundant life. So we too, as we pass through the desert places of our lives, receive God's blessing and they become places of abundant life. Our epistle reading counsels us to be patient as we wait for the coming of the Lord. Are you in a desert place now? Wait with patience for the gift of rain. When God comes, he will bless. The Gospel reading asks us to give up our ideas of who Christ should be and what he should be doing and accept him for who he is and what he does. Sometimes, we are

like John the Baptist, who asked, "Could this man really be the savior?" Jesus responds to him and to us, "Blessed is the one who does not stumble on account of me."

**ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER:** Isaiah presents a beautiful picture of the day when the Lord will make this world right. It is a sight to behold! In His ministry, Jesus literally opened blind eyes to see. At the same time, He was also opening the eyes of faith to see Him as the Messiah. Jesus is still restoring eyes to see right through His Word. Even though today we see dimly, a day is coming when we shall see face to face (1Corinthians 13:12).

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE: Today, 8:30 a.m.** Christmas **Band Practice** (5<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade/adult); **9:00 a.m.** Christmas Program Songs and Sunday School lesson; **10:15 a.m.** Christmas Program practice (pre-school -12<sup>th</sup> grade). The Christmas program today at 4:00 p.m.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT:** Advent is a season of preparation for the coming of Christ. We have extra opportunities to prepare this year through our midweek Advent services held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays at Peace. Everyone is invited to come and hear from Isaiah about the future God is preparing for us in his Son.

**SECRET PAL CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The Christmas party will be Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. We will gather at Pizza Ranch at 6:00 p.m. Secret Pals for 2022 will be revealed and new names will be drawn for 2023. If any ladies would like to join, please join us at Pizza Ranch.

**DAUGHTERS OF PEACE:** The Christmas party will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. Please bring an ornament that has special meaning to you. We will share why the ornament is special. Also, please bring a guest if you wish. Karen Olson will have devotions and program.

**DECEMBER ALTAR COMMITTEES:** Altar Committee for Peace is Doris Iwen, Yvette Waagmeester, Harper Flying Horse, and Danie Folkens. At English it will be Wanda Wulf.

**THIS MONTH** Daughters of Peace will collect canned soups, cream soups, crackers, canned vegetables, canned fruit, microwave popcorn, instant potatoes, Pop Tarts, cereals, tuna Hamburger Helper and Tuna Helper for Atlas. Thank you all for your support in our monthly projects.

**USHERS:** **December 11-**Steve and Jesse Janssen; **December 18-**Wayne Ranschau and Lowell Drenth

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

**HYMN 387: JOY TO THE WORLD**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*(Brief Silence for Inward Confession)*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 71:14–18; antiphon: Philipians 4:4*

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
**again I will say, Rejoice.**  
I will hope continually  
**and will praise you yet more and more.**

My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,  
**for their number is past my knowledge.**

With the mighty deeds of the Lord GOD I will come;

**I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.**

O God, from my youth you have taught me,  
**and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.**

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Rejoice in the Lord always;

**again I will say, Rejoice.**

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 35:1–10*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL**

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

Behold, your king is coming to you;

**righteous and having salvation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

**From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

## EPISTLE

*James 5:7–11*

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## VERSE

*Matthew 11:10b*

**Alleluia. Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 11:2–15*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

*After the Reading*

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## 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.**

## HYMN 367: ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

### SERMON

### OFFERTORY

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**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### BENEDICTION

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**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## HYMN 388: GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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