

Please stand

Prayer after Communion

C: Amen.

Blessing

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Twelve Days of Christmas

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

St. Mark's CCLI #1029577 St. Mark's OneLicense A-702204

Service Participants

Acolyte: Reagan Polzin

Lay Communion Asst.: Sophia Petersen

Greeters/Ushers: Eric Bale & Jim French

Public Internet Access: StMarks_Guest Password: Connect123!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Midweek Advent Worship at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, December 15.

It's time to pack those Mom Bags! Thank you so much for all of your donations - we have enough to pack about 130 bags! BUT we still need your help to get them finished! We'll have everything set up (assembly-line style) in the Sunday School hallway on Wednesday, December 15, at 5 pm. The plan is to get them all packed and ready for Manna House to pick up the next day.

Next Sunday, December 19, we welcome Assistant to the Bishop, Morgan Gordy, as she leads us in a Farewell & Godspeed liturgy for Pastor Gary at both services. A small receiving line/reception will follow both services.

We are still collecting hats, mittens, scarves for our Mitten Tree. All collections will go to the clinic in New Hope. Deadline is December 19.

Christmas Eve Worship

5:00 pm Contemporary Candlelight Worship

7:00 pm Christmas Recital

7:30 pm Traditional Full-Festival Candlelight Worship



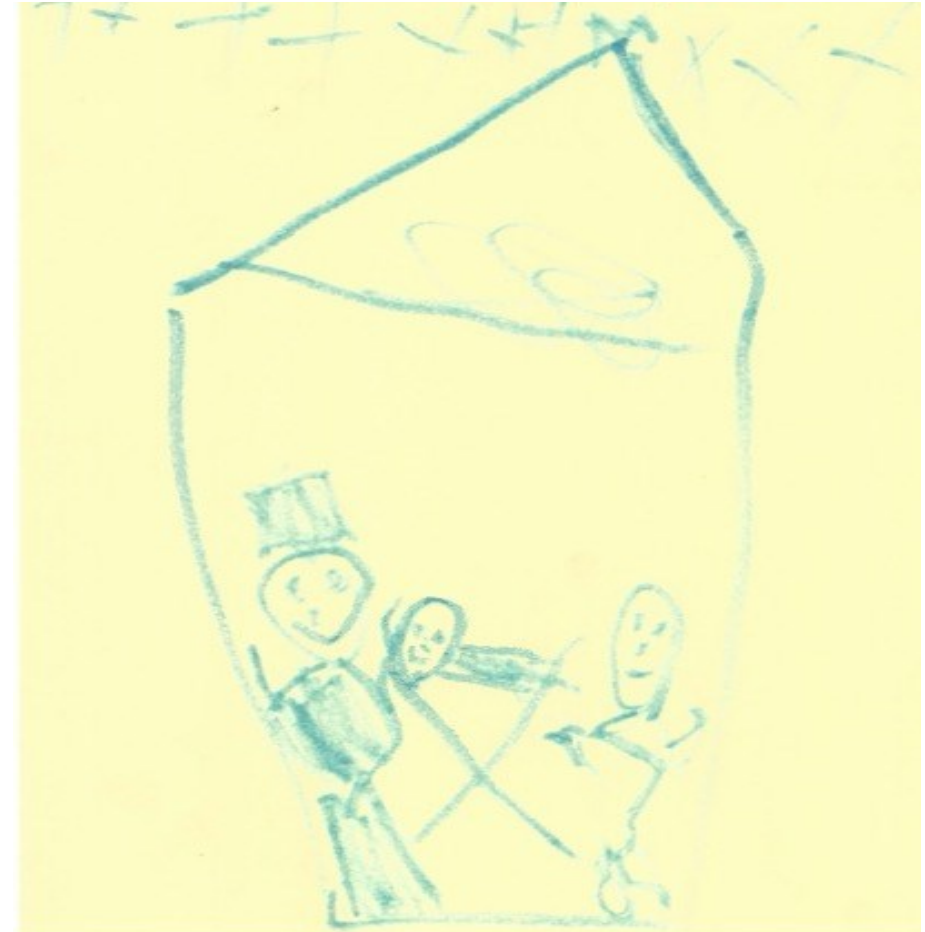
St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 12, 2021

10:00a.m. Unity Worship Service

Sunday School Christmas

Third Sunday of Advent



We are glad to have you worship with us this morning! Please let us know you are here by signing in on the Pew Pads. You may also add a prayer request and/or share your Joys and Gratitude.

Call to Worship Bell

Worship Introit

He Is Born

Handbells

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand

Call to Worship: Isaiah 12:2-6

One: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

All: for the Lord God is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

One: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

All: And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name; make known the deeds of the Lord among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.

One: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.

All: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Gathering Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful (vv. 1, 3)

Hymn 283

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,

sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: *Refrain*

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us...

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated

Invitation to Communion

...These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Please follow the guidance of the ushers and make every effort to give others distance as we commune together. Please receive both elements and then unmask to partake in this meal. Also, please know you are welcome to receive a blessing instead of partaking in communion as a reminder of God's love, forgiveness, and grace for you. These are the gifts of God for all.

Communion Songs

The First Noel (vv. 1-4)

Hymn 300

What Feast of Love

Hymn 487

Please be seated

MEAL

Offering Song

Night of Silence

Choir

Please stand

Song of Thanksgiving

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness (v.1) Hymn 251

My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord;
I sing my Savior's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness,
and I am full of grace.
Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age
this blessing shall proclaim—
great wonders you have done for me,
and holy is your name.

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Offertory Prayer

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface for Sundays/Holy, Holy, Holy

Leader:

...We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest

Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, **stir up the wills of your faithful people, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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

Advent Wreath Lighting

Advent Song

Choose to Hope (vv.1 & 3)

- 1 Hope is born when we choose to believe that love is stronger than hatred.
Love is born when our hearts learn to see that ev'ry person is sacred.
In the times of darkness, in times of fear, choose to hope, choose to love,
Emmanuel is near.
- 3 Hope will shine when we choose to believe a little child will lead us.
Love will shine when our hearts learn to see that God is dwelling within us.
In the times of darkness, in times of fear, choose to hope, choose to love,
Emmanuel is near.

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Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:4-7 (Pew Bible p. 955)

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.

Children's Program

Christmas Song

Light of the Stable

Hail hail to the newborn King
Let our voices sing Him our praises
Hail hail to the guiding light
That brought us tonight to our Savior

Halle hallelujah halle hallelujah
Halle hallelujah halle hallelujah

Come now where it shines so bright
To the knowing light of the stable
Kneel close to the Child so dear
Cast aside your fear and be thankful

Elizabeth Rhymer | Steve Rhymer

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Children's Message

All children and their parents are invited for a brief message.

Please rise for the Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation-Behold

One: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

One: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16 (Pew Bible p. 834)

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Homily

Pastor Gary Soop

Silence for reflection on the Word.

Please stand

Song of the Day

Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)

What hope we hold this starlit night
A King is born in Bethlehem
Our journey long we seek the light
That leads to the hallowed manger ground

What fear we felt in the silent age
Four-hundred years can He be found
But broken by a baby's cry
Rejoice in the hallowed manger ground

Emmanuel Emmanuel
God incarnate here to dwell
Emmanuel Emmanuel
Praise His name Emmanuel

The Son of God here born to bleed
A crown of thorns would pierce His brow
And we beheld this offering
Exalted now the King of kings
Praise God for the hallowed manger ground

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash

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Prayers of Intercession

In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

Petitions will be concluded with:

Hear us, O God, **C: Your mercy is great.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you.

Please extend a greeting of welcome and a word of grace to those around you.