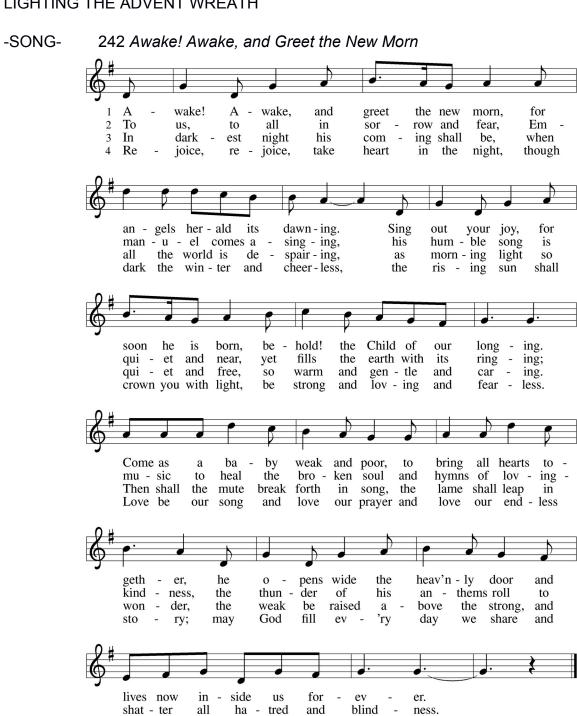
### Brief Service of Holy Communion Third Sunday in Advent - Sunday, December 12

#### WORDS OF WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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#### **Apostolic Greeting**

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

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, 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 Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

# Zephaniah 3:14-20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;

shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,

O daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>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.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>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

<sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

<sup>19</sup>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.

<sup>20</sup>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.

## Psalm-reading Isaiah 12:2-6

<sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not | be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become | my salvation.

<sup>3</sup>With joy you | will draw water from the wells | of salvation.

<sup>4</sup>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 this name | is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done | gloriously; let this be known in | all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel.

# Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

# Gospel Reading: Luke 3:7-18

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the third chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>7</sup>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 to come? <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>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."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup>In reply he said to them,

"Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup>He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup>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."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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."

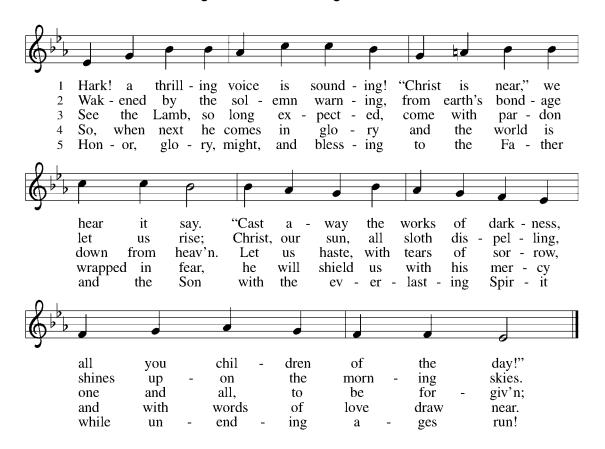
<sup>18</sup>So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the gospel of Christ.

#### Praise to you, O Christ

#### The Message

-SONG- ELW 246 Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878 Music: MERTON , William H. Monk, 1823–1889

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

response: Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

#### Sharing The Peace

The Peace of Christ be always with you! And also with you

The Great Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you
And also with you
Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord!
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Blessed are you, Creator of infinite variety....

Using words familiar to you, let us join in the prayer that Jesus taught:

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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

The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

We share Communion from where we are

Time of reflection -SONG- ACS 901 Now the Heavens Start to Whisper (Lexy solo)

#### Post-Communion Blessing

#### Let us pray:

We give you thanks, loving God, that we have met your son Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Send us from this table to tables throughout our world to love and serve in Jesus' name. Amen

#### **Blessing**

#### -SONG- 282 It Came upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up on the mid night clear, that glo rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un furled,
- 3 And you, be neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has-t'ning on, by proph-ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold: and still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world. who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow: when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gra-cious king."

A - bove its sad and low-ly plains they bend on hov-'ring wing, look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift - ly on the wing; when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still-ness lay to hear the an - gels sing. and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing. oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing! and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876

Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace, Christ is near.

Thanks be to God!



# PRAYER LIST We hold in prayer this day...

Pastor David,

Stuart (friend of Pastor Dave)

Pastor Lanny and LeeAnn Knutson,

Gabriel (friend of Pastor Dave)

Ed (spouse of member of the Friday Art Group)

Jan, Karin & Joe (friends of Irene Snell)

Signe (friend of Karen I.B.)

Sheilagh (friend of Audrey & Merv Fitz)

Florence (friend of Al & Marlene Herman)

Edgar (father of Tim Lach)

Emile (husband of artist, Freda P.)

Barb (friend of Karen I.B.)

Donald (brother of Kim Dorn)

Lawrence (brother of Al Herman)

Angie, Don (friends of Marlene Herman)

Lil (Barb I's mom)

Doris (Jerry's sister)

Art, and Beth (friends of Sandra and John)

Papa, Nana, and Leah (close friends of Jennifer Rz)

Andrew and Cindy (Jennifer's father and his partner)

Irene (Cathy's friend)

Health care workers tending to the sick in this pandemic time

#### In our congregation:

Audrey F.

Matthew H. Jennifer R. Linda H. Christa M. Roy N., Barb M.

Jerry B. Alma R.

John F. Doreen Kletke Patty C. & family Kara T-R

Shirley A. Darlene W Dorothy B. Pam R

Anastasia M.

Don K.
Ilona O.
Jenifer S.

Lori Ebbling Treon